

THE AMERICAN

206 • OCTOBER 1973

LEGION

MAGAZINE

WHAT HAPPENED TO LUMBER?



A GUIDE TO U.S. TALKS
WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

A REPORT FROM THE 55th NATIONAL
CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Held in HONOLULU

A Profile of the LEGION'S NEW COMMANDER

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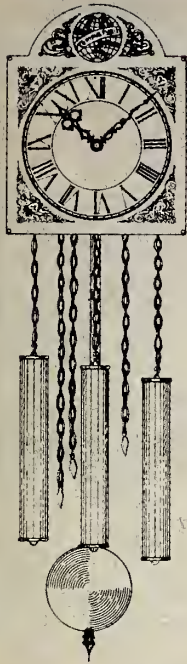
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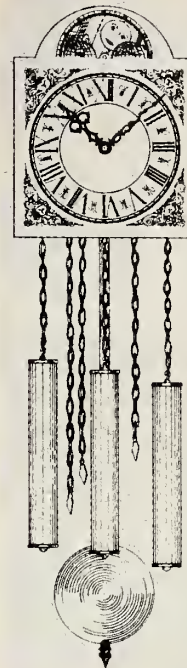
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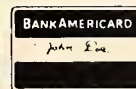
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OCTOBER 1973
Volume 95, Number 4

National Commander
Robert E. L. Eaton

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The American

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Magazine

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BY THOMAS WEYR

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BY DALE WRIGHT

All of a sudden you could hardly find so much as a piece of plywood even if you were willing to pay the price. What happened? You wouldn't believe that wood could be the subject of such an involved tale.

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BY R. B. PITKIN

An introduction to Robert E. Lee Eaton, of Maryland, who was elected in Honolulu to head The American Legion in 1973-74.

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Fourteen pages of text and photos of The American Legion's National Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, August 17-August 23.

COVER: DRAWING BY BOB CLARKE

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Manuscripts, artwork, cartoons submitted for consideration will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. This magazine assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material.

THIS IS A TRUE STORY*

All details in our file #3789. Only the name of the Universal graduate has been changed.

How Jack Hudson made more than \$20,000 working just 6 months a year

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Free Book put Jack on road to big income

The coupon brought Jack the same fascinating Free Book you can have in just a few days. It's an eye opener! It tells the little-known story of an incredible world of opportunity all around you in the booming Insurance Investigation field.

It was all new to Jack. He'd hardly even heard of Insurance Investigation. Yet Jack Hudson felt he had found his perfect opportunity.

And he had! Soon Jack was forging ahead fast in his new, exciting career. His first full year he made \$14,768.72—starting from no experience at all! Then he started averaging **\$20,000 and more working about six months a year.** The rest of the time he just took things easy.

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- Insurance Investigation is a **\$20 billion dollar** industry booming to new heights every year. It's part of one of the biggest, richest businesses in the world today—though most men simply don't realize it.
- More men are urgently needed to investigate some **30 million** Insurance losses and accidents each year, everywhere.
- For nearly 25 years, Universal's training-by-mail has been the path to success for thousands of men in this field.

So there it was—the opportunity of a lifetime. Jack grabbed it — fast. He enrolled for training with famous Universal Schools, Washington, D.C.

It was surprisingly easy. Jack simply studied his brief, interesting lessons at home in his spare time, at his own pace. He didn't risk a single paycheck because he kept right on with his old job until he could start making money quickly in Insurance Investigation.

Jack Hudson's income zoomed so unusually high because he became a busy "Specialist" Investigator and Adjuster. The job and income are not typical of the industry, but Jack's story does show the enormous, big-money potential in this field—even for men with no college or experience. As do these reports from other Universal graduates:

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Ed C., California

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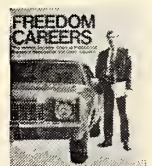
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ON AMERICAN HISTORY

SIR: I have just finished reading Harvey Ardman's article, "Will the Real Patrick Henry Please Stand Up?" (August), and, to me, a long time out of school, it was a revelation—a real dilly. We need more articles of this type these days. . . .

GEORGE H. HAMMETT
Dorchester, Mass.

SIR: I would like to express my gratitude for the beautiful essays in history published by the magazine. These interesting sketches give the magazine and its readers a valuable dimension in depth from which we can better perceive, enlighten and enjoy our current affairs. As Patrick Henry might have put it, may we profit from the opportunity you offer. Keep up the good work.

KENNETH J. HERBST
Dubuque, Iowa

SIR: Thomas Fleming's article, "Cornwallis' Surrender At Yorktown" (July), reminds me—why not publish your magnificent American history articles of the last six or seven years in book form?

JOHN W. BOWLING
Troy, Ala.

Many readers have made the same suggestion. We are looking for a publisher to put out an anthology of our history articles, and hope to find one.

MR. FEHRENBACH

SIR: That was a heavyweight piece of T. R. Fehrenbach's in the August issue ("Land Speculation and Development in the 1970's"). I have read some of Mr. Fehrenbach's books, and have re-read his masterful history of the Korean War. What a surprise to find him to be just as talented in dealing with such a different subject as the land boom, land development and land speculation. Did he not also write a piece for us some years ago on what happened to the signers of the Declaration of Independence, which became the basis for a book?

G. L. CRUMP
Jacksonville, Fla.

Yes, he did.

THE SPACE SHUTTLE

SIR: What I've read here and there about the space shuttle project led me to believe that it was just one more in a series of NASA gee-whiz stunts. Thanks for your August article ("The Space Shuttle"), which makes it so clear that the shuttle is the necessary milestone to pass just to really enter the Space Age.

FRANK J. HINES
Oklahoma City, Okla.

NO QUICK SOLUTION

SIR: Your July article on hydrogen gas as the fuel of the future intrigued me. But when I'd finished it the net impact was euphoric. It is not apt to become available before the year 2000, if then. Meanwhile, we have urgent energy problems needing attention for our near-term needs.

L. E. DONEGAN
Lincoln, Nebr.

Right now the hydrogen idea is certainly "way out." See our Oct. 1971 issue for a full-length article on the more immediate energy crisis.

THAT HAWAIIAN PIE

SIR: The Maka-Hiki restaurant at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu served a Macadamia nut pie that was temptation itself. Who's the chef and what's his recipe?

EMILY KNIGHT
Leonia, N.J.

SIR: That pie was something else. How do they make it?

SUE BLANCHARD
Denver, Colo.

Here is the recipe, to fill your own eight-inch pie crust, courtesy of the Hilton Hawaiian Village's pastry chef, Richard Wagner:

Two cups milk.
Three eggs.
Half teaspoon vanilla extract.
One cup chopped Macadamia nuts.
One and a half cups whipped cream.
Half cup sugar.
One ounce cornstarch.
One eighth teaspoon salt.

Make your own 8-inch pie shell.

Bring one and a half cups of the milk and the sugar to a boil. Combine the remaining milk, cornstarch, salt and the eggs and stir until smooth. When the milk and sugar come to a boil add them to the cornstarch mixture. Pour the filling into a bowl and chill for an hour. After the filling is completely cooled add the vanilla, chopped Macadamia nuts and half of the whipped cream. Pour the filling into your baked pie shell and decorate with the remaining whipped cream.

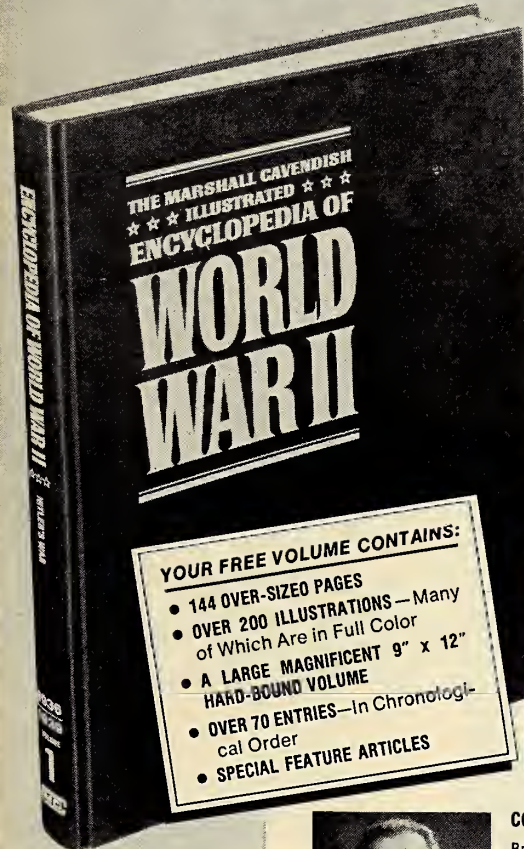
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- ✓ What bribe was Germany offered by England to give up its hostile attitude toward Poland?
- ✓ How did Hitler bully Stalin into signing the Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact of August 1939?
- ✓ How did the German U-Boat 47 sneak into the British Home Fleet stronghold to sink the super battleship Royal Oak?
- ✓ What forced Hitler, at the last moment, to call off the invasion of Belgium on November 12, 1939?
- ✓ Who invented the modern concept of the "Cold War"?

You will find the answers in your FREE Volume 1.



CONSULTANT EDITOR

Brigadier General James L. Collins, Jr., present Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. General Collins graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1939. He served in the European Theater during World War II, and also in Korea and Vietnam.

Here are just a few of the history-changing events covered in your BIG FREE VOLUME!

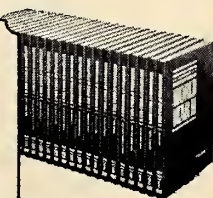
The 1938 Munich Agreement • Hitler's "Rape of Prague" • Hitler's Plan for Danzig • Mussolini Seizes Albania • The "Pact Of Steel" Between Berlin and Rome • Mussolini's Hopelessly Unprepared Army • Stalin Sides With Hitler • Countdown To War • Mussolini Blackmails Hitler For Arms • Poland Wiped Off The Map • Blitzkrieg Unleashed • Soviet Betrayal Of Poland • Graf Spee Trapped By British • The "Winter War": Finland vs. Russia

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EARLY in his first term, President Nixon promised to move this country from an era of international confrontation to one of negotiation. He has kept his promise. We are talking to everyone about everything.

So many international talkfests are going on in places like Vienna, Nairobi, Geneva, Tokyo, Helsinki or Washington that it isn't easy for the average reader of the news to follow all the jawing. Some of the conferences have a long history—even those that have barely started, like one called "CSCE" in which 35 nations are involved. They meet, they recess, and months or years later they meet again. Some talks were started almost 30 years ago, and many may still be convening 30 years hence.

Sometimes they bog down for ages over the inclusion of one key word in a proposed agreement.

Most of us need some sort of guide in order to have any idea of what on earth is going on and who is trying to do what. Guides to international conferences aren't easy to come by, and this article is a crack at providing one.

The most important ongoing international talkfests can be divided into two major categories and a total of

A Guide to U.S. Talks With Other Countries

A little help, we hope, for you to see through the bargaining on gut issues by the nations.

1. Long talks about agreeing to talk.
2. Agreement to talk.
3. Long talks on what to talk about.
4. Agreement on what to talk about.
5. Presentation by all sides of demands unacceptable to others.
6. Long jockeying on each possible inch of compromise.
7. Signing of an agreement announced as a milestone.
8. Recognition that the agreement was more like an inch than a mile of progress.
9. Agreement to talk further.
10. Repeat from #3—long talks on what to talk about again.

munist lands; "us" and our friends jawing with "them" and their friends about arms, trade, the future of Central Europe and the flow of people, ideas and programs across national borders. "East-West" embraces four major sets of talks.

2. West-West talks among Western European and American nations and Japan and Down Under—chiefly about their trade with one another and what they are going to use for international money since we quit gold-plating the paper dollar. Two major

A clear example is CSCE, the first of the six major conferences we'll review here. It is brand new, but the talk about agreeing to talk started in 1954. It took 18 years for CSCE to get to step 3—talks about what we'd talk about.

CSCE stands for *Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe*. The first time it ever met was last November, though Mr. Molotov, as Soviet Foreign Minister, first suggested it in 1954, saying that East and West in Europe should get together and be friendlier. Mr. Nixon was then Vice President, in Eisenhower's first term. The West saw Molotov's bid as a ploy to separate our European allies from us and keep West Germany out of NATO. His words were vague and he didn't mention United States participation in the European talks.

For 12 years the idea was mentioned now and then, with a general "no, thanks" from us and our friends. The communist Warsaw Pact nations revived the idea in a meeting of theirs in Romania in 1966, and again it smelled to our friends like sitting down with the Soviets to agree to everything they wanted—again exclud-

WIDE WORLD



The Bretton Woods conference among 44 Western nations back in 1944. Among other things it created the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF directors will soon meet in Nairobi to wrestle with the devaluation of our overseas dollar.

six major conferences within them. If you can get a feel for the six—as news about them blossoms and fades—you can score yourself pretty well in Advanced News Comprehension.

The two broad categories are:

1. East-West talks with the com-

sets of talks come under "West-West."

It is a common practice for major international talks on the real nitty-gritty questions (which the UN has a poor record of handling) to develop along these patient lines:



IDE WORLD

In 1967, President Johnson and Soviet Premier Kosygin met at Glassboro, N.J. (above). Out of their chat came the SALT talks, to reduce nuclear weapons. Now in their second major round, two agreements have been confirmed.

ing the United States and Canada from the table.

Two years later the Red juggernaut rolled over Czechoslovakia. Ha, our side said, this confirms our suspicions of what *they* mean by *Security and Cooperation in Europe*.

But in the fall of 1969, Moscow was back, saying: "We're serious, despite Czechoslovakia, and we want to talk."

Two of the key Western nations were by then headed by men with impeccable anti-communist records—Willy Brandt in West Germany and Richard Nixon in the United States. Both took the view that talk is free, and both agreed with Winston Churchill that it is better to "jaw jaw" than to "war war."

With Western fingers-crossed approval, Brandt negotiated treaties with Russia and Poland that loosened up West German trade and other relations with her Eastern neighbors considerably. He didn't give away much more than some pride and recognition of facts of life that had been true in East Europe for 25 years. Chancellor Brandt broke barriers he wanted to break, and got his key item, a new Russian agreement on West

Berlin, guaranteeing access to it.

Obviously, the communists had wanted West German trade loosened too. The only bar to it had been an unwillingness to indulge in a little guarded sweet talk on both sides. Brandt's experience encouraged the idea of holding a general conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe—with America at the table.

Mr. Nixon had already advertised his willingness to talk with anyone about anything and dramatized it in 1971 by announcing personal visits to China and Russia.

In spring, 1972—18 years after Molotov's first bid—it was agreed that in November, "MPT on CSCE" would start. That means *Multilateral Preparatory Talks* on the *Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe*. That means they'd all get together and talk about what they'd talk about.

Last May, after six months of preparatory talks, 35 nations had an agenda for CSCE. They would talk about:

1. Military and political security in Europe;
2. Cooperation in economics, sci-

ence, technology, culture, education and the environment; and

3. Greater freedom for human contacts and exchanges of information.

Last July, the very top leaders and diplomats met in Helsinki and started stating their positions on the major items. The development of positions is still going on and will run well into the fall.

The Russians act as if the meat could be wrapped up for a grand summit announcement around New Year's Day, which would announce agreement or great progress on the three large areas under discussion.

Don't believe it. If there is real progress, it will probably inch along and there may even be none until CSCE has sat and sat again.

Under "political security in Europe," the West wants to weaken the "Brezhnev Doctrine," which says Russia may intervene anywhere in Eastern Europe if she feels her interests are threatened. It was cooked up to justify the Czechoslovakian invasion of 1968 and any future operations of the sort.

The Russians snort at Western objections. Why, they say, we only

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come in at the request of the local communist government. "Noninterference" is a good policy, they say, but it doesn't apply to Russian actions in East Europe or elsewhere, only to what the West does. This is the diplomatic theory that what's mine is mine, what's yours is negotiable.

No, no, said the Western delegates. Let's get some substance out of our talks and stop playing with words. We must heal, not confirm, the division of Europe if we are talking about Security and Cooperation. So how about this language? "We affirm the principles of nonintervention and noninterference in the internal affairs of states, whatever their social or political system."

The Soviet reaction was frosty, but the West didn't expect anything else. If the Soviets don't want the conference to succeed, nothing can come of it anyway. But if they do, allied officials believe Moscow will have to accept some version of the above, no matter how watered down. It may be very watery before agreed to, and may not seem like much. But if it won't stop Soviet intervention, it might check it. Should any Soviet satellite be gripped by another attack of liberal fever, the thermometer may have to go just a bit higher than it did in 1968 before the Red Army rumbles in. That would be a little progress.

Equally important for the West is an increase in the exchange of people and ideas between East and West. This could open the communist societies to fresh winds of ideas and change. The Soviets resist these efforts stoutly, but it is the area of the biggest potential for unfreezing the world.

The Western statesmen will keep insisting. If they can gain inches, that will be all right. The Soviets are noted for their patience, but leading Western statesmen have adopted it in CSCE. They calmly speak of 20 years of talks if need be.

The Russians had hoped, from the day Molotov proposed it, to use the conference to exploit Western friction, to reduce United States influence in Western Europe and to increase their own during subsequent CSCE meetings, if the machinery were made permanent.

Now they are in a hurry and the West is talking about permanence and patience. Most of the friction at Helsinki came from maverick satellites like Romania and mini-states like Malta. NATO and the neutral states presented a united front on

major issues discussed at these talks.

A French official said: "If we don't get something solid, we'll just say that we had a conference and we'll try again some other time. And we won't go home mad, either." The West made it known that they'd talk as long as the Russians would—for the rest of the century if need be—and no hard feelings if nothing comes of the first go-around.

As one official put it, "CSCE is a step in a long and difficult process . . . some improvement, however modest, would further enhance European stability."

One of the key things Russia wanted from CSCE all along was the equivalent of a WW2 peace treaty.



Above, U.S. forces in Berlin. Opposite, Red tanks outside of Prague. Extremely tricky talks are under way for a mutual reduction of forces in Central Europe.

Her grabs in East Europe in 1945-46 have never been internationally legitimized, a most sensitive point with Russia. But to negotiate a peace treaty now is unthinkable to her. It would permit the West to bargain anew over what was an accomplished Soviet conquest long ago.

CSCE, Russia hoped, would enunciate high-sounding principles that would serve the same purpose, while avoiding the particulars that a peace treaty gets into. By the time CSCE first met, she had gotten her principles recognized by Willy Brandt's Germany, and her hopes were high for getting the rest of the West to go along.

Andrei Gromyko opened the Helsinki talks in a calm, conciliatory tone. He spoke in fine words about respecting frontiers and national sovereignty—but meaning chiefly the

boundaries in East Europe imposed a quarter century ago by the Red Army. And when he got to it, he was cool about any closer human contacts or freer information than now exist.

His proposals for the sanctity of frontiers, said the New York Times editorially, ". . . would simply . . . legitimize Josef Stalin's conquest of Eastern Europe."

NATO and neutral nations dismissed his proposals as irrelevant to today's problems. Yes, yes, they said. We aren't about to send armies eastward. But we do want a movement of people and ideas, a free exchange of information, common efforts to clean up rivers and lakes, a sharing of know-how in solving social and environmental problems. (To all of which the Soviets have already given lip service.)

As for the sanctity of borders, the West offered to improve on Gromyko's fine words by being more specific. Let's go further, they said, and agree to recognize only those boundaries that are settled peacefully, and not by force. This was a direct Western ploy at never legitimizing *past* boundaries achieved by force, if they aren't already recognized.

The West will probably budge very little from this position, lest it foreclose any possible reunification of Germany, or any possible chance for a satellite to win its freedom, however remote.

There should be no final agreement by New Year's Day, or anything like it. The whole people and exchange idea is giving the communists the willies. The sanctity-of-borders question has gotten to the point where

progress, if any, will be by millimeters. The same goes for noninterference in internal affairs. The West is showing the legendary inscrutable patience of the mysterious East, while the Russians are stuck with a conference they promoted for 18 years during which they envisioned a different course for it. You will be hearing of CSCE for a long time unless the Soviets elect to chuck the whole thing.

NEXT QUICK look is at MBFR. That is the talks on *Mutually Balanced Force Reductions*. In 1968, the NATO Council said: "Look, we and they are keeping great big armed forces in Europe. Why don't we all try to save money and trouble by cutting them back so the balance is still the same—if we can do it so that

There was also always the chance that Russia could get more from mutual cutback talks than she might have to give. This is true in all bargaining, and her hopes were raised by political pressures in the United States to cut back our European strength even if the Soviets didn't cut theirs. In 1971, Sen. Mike Mansfield came close to passing an amendment in the Senate for a one-sided U.S. troops reduction in Europe. Mr. Nixon summoned enough forces to turn it back. But, the Russians figured, you never know about the Americans. Mansfield might win next time and give them a big edge in the bargaining.

So the Soviets finally said they'd be interested in talks about reducing "foreign armed forces" on "European territory," but mentioned no date.

MBFR met on schedule. As soon as she sat down, Russia insisted that Hungary be admitted only as an observer. The Red Army has 40,000 soldiers in Hungary to hold Hungary down, and the USSR did not propose to bargain any part of them away. Of course, the NATO countries refused to agree to that at all. It would be hard enough to define "balanced" reductions without leaving four full Soviet divisions in Central Europe out of the talks entirely.

What on earth would "balanced" mean, anyway? If we withdrew 10,000 troops 4,000 miles, while the Russians withdrew 10,000 troops from her much larger forces 300 miles, that would be "equal" but far from "balanced." She would withdraw a smaller proportion and be able to get them back in the field, and operational, in a day—and we couldn't.

"Balanced" was even harder to formulate with respect to the relative merits of Soviet and Western tanks, planes and guns sited in Central Europe.

Progress naturally moved slowly, and by last spring it was clear that the Soviets didn't intend to budge on Hungary and didn't care much for the word "balanced" in MBFR.

The Nixon Administration was in a difficult bargaining position. Watergate was sapping the President's hold on the legislature, and Congress might dish up the Mansfield amendment and pass it at any time, while Mr. Nixon was hoping to announce something good about MBFR during Brezhnev's summit visit in June.

These pressures led us to give in on Hungary, salvaging only a provision that the United States could call an MBFR meeting to admit Hungary whenever a suspicion arose that the Soviets were deploying her divisions there against NATO's strength instead of against possibly unruly Hungarians.

Meanwhile, all kinds of formulae for reductions of troops and arms in Europe were haggled over. The first round ended in no agreement but with a host of proposals lying on the table.

The Vienna delegates departed, Brezhnev came here, and on June 25 he and Mr. Nixon issued a joint communique on their summit talks. Buried on page 10 was this short remark about MBFR. "(We) attach great importance to the negotiations on the mutual reduction of forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe which will begin October 30, 1973."

This says that on Oct. 30, 11 nations will meet in Vienna to try again

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neither side feels a loss of security?"

In a vacuum, the idea of cutting back was enormously appealing to both sides, groaning under arms burdens. But for a host of reasons neither the United States nor the Soviets were then ready for cutbacks. NATO was going through difficult times, and it almost looked to Russia as if NATO might fade away without the Soviets agreeing to anything. The Czechoslovakian episode and Russian-created crises over Berlin meanwhile scared NATO into forgetting cutbacks and instead repairing its weaknesses.

The restrengthening of NATO was certainly a factor in Russia's decision to take a closer look at Mutually Balanced Force Reductions. So were President Nixon's overtures in 1972, and Brezhnev's desire to give the Russians more consumer goods than her arms commitments allow. The Chinese threat also made it desirable for the Soviets to lessen their arms burden in Europe.

Then they went a step further, and said they'd like to include the subject in CSCE, which had a date but involved a lot of nations without any forces in Europe. They may well have hoped to avoid specifics about arms, and instead to wangle a consensus from 35 CSCE nations against keeping troops on other people's soil, which they'd interpret as a condemnation of non-European troops in Europe, i.e.: just us.

When Mr. Nixon went to Moscow in 1972, he and Mr. Kissinger insisted on separate MBFR talks, among principals only, to be held concurrently with CSCE. Otherwise, no CSCE either. The Soviets made the first concession. They agreed to our pitch for separate talks on balanced arms reductions in Central Europe, restricted to those involved with arms there. Last Nov. 16, seven NATO countries invited five Warsaw Pact nations to start preliminary talks in Vienna on Jan. 1, 1973.

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to equate gun muzzles and division sizes and all the other paraphernalia of war. It also says that Russia won another round. The word "balanced" (the "B" in MBFR) was omitted from the communique. It said "mutual reduction" not "mutually balanced reduction."

Our officials say they only gave up a word, and they certainly aren't going to sign away anything at our expense, nor do they expect the Russians to accept a disadvantage.

The talks will be difficult, complex, guarded. They ought to take two years at least, unless the Congress gives the Soviets a complete victory before then by reducing our forces legislatively without any concessions from them. If all goes moderately well, there should be fewer American forces in Europe when the talks are over, without any increased danger to Western security. If not, probably little will come from MBFR at all.

WE NOW COME to the so-called SALT talks. SALT I is over and we are looking today at SALT II. SALT is *Strategic Arms Limitations Talks*. They are aimed at cutting back nuclear attack and defensive weapons by jawing.

SALT goes back to 1967, when President Johnson and Soviet Premier Kosygin met at Glassboro, N.J. Then, the nuclear arms race seemed to have no limits while it cost billions on billions. Each side felt obligated to build more megatons of destructive power to match the other's. Then came the defensive weapons—ABM's, or anti-ballistic-missile missiles—to shoot down the other side's attack missiles if launched. The ABM's seem to require that each side build more and better attack weapons in order to get through his opponent's ABM's. Then each side would need more and better ABM's . . . and so on. Kosygin and Johnson talked about this and said, "How nice if we'd both cut back and spare ourselves all these billions."

There were grounds to trust the Russians a bit of the way in such talks. Five years earlier we and they had agreed to stop above-ground nuclear testing. Both sides had kept the agreement (and have still kept it to this day). We have jointly urged the same policy on the rest of the world, and only Red China and France have ignored it.

But again, the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia came along to turn us off.

When President Nixon started his

first term, he insisted on authority to build ABM's around major American cities. We'd need them in actual operation for defense if the nuclear arms race continued, and on paper, all authorized and budgeted, to bargain with in attempts to stop the race. Russia had already ringed Moscow and Leningrad with ABM's while we'd set up none.

Amidst considerable furor against ABM's here, he got the authority.

WIDE WORLD



Last year, David Kennedy for the U.S. and Ambassador Ushiba for Japan agreed to a textile pact to limit Japanese exports here (above). This is just a stopgap. Between now and 1975, the Western nations plan tough talks with each other to iron out trade and money problems. They will come under the general heading of GATT, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The going won't be easy for anyone.

With that he agreed to SALT talks, which opened in Helsinki, Nov. 17, 1969. They continued for 30 arduous months, and SALT I finally came up with an agreement that didn't stop the nuclear race but put limits on it. Mr. Nixon signed it in the Kremlin on May 26, 1972, calling it the "most momentous negotiations ever entrusted to an American delegation." The weighing of the dangers, and of what could be agreed to safely at Helsinki, are far too complex to review here. Probably no agreement could have been reached if it weren't for the great scientific advances to detect what happens in Russia without being allowed to make on-site inspections.

The SALT I agreement was in two parts—an ABM treaty and an Interim Agreement on offensive nuclear arms. Each side is allowed to put 100 ABM's

around two sites, and no more. Russia picked Moscow and one of her missile sites. We picked Washington, D.C., and our missile silos at Grand Forks, N.Dak. The Interim Agreement froze big offensive weapons at 1,054 missiles for us and 1,618 for Russia.

So far, so good. But SALT I only played a numbers game. The race to make each missile more effective has not been checked by any agreement. Though Russia was allowed more missiles and has weapons with more overkill, we are ahead of her in the

potential for ruin of our atomic weapons, because of the higher sophistication of our systems. If there's a bit of comfort in this right now, in the long run it means the same old thing. She'll race to catch up to us in quality and we'll race to stay ahead. And until we actually agree on limiting the power and versatility of the weapons allowed under SALT I, we and they must still press to make more effective nuclear systems.

We have MIRV's*—single missiles that split into many warheads over enemy territory, each being directed to a separate target. She has only come up with MRV's**, which split into many but are all showered on the same target area. Our submarine nuclear power is superior. She is rac-

*Multiple Independently-targeted Re-entry Vehicles.

**Multiple Re-entry Vehicles.

ing to catch up. So we are racing to stay ahead with the Navy's proposed Trident, a giant leap forward in submarine nuclear attack effectiveness.

Six months after SALT I was signed, SALT II sat down in Helsinki to start trying to agree to limits on the quality of nuclear armaments.

The most logical start would be to agree temporarily to freeze nuclear sophistication at the present level, so that the talks could proceed without being upset by new advances. If nobody is better off, nobody is worse off by accepting a temporary status quo.

The Russians immediately threw a monkey wrench into that idea by asking if America would be interested in discussing MIRV controls. This was most embarrassing. We *would* be interested. But to *start* with talks only about MIRV's has the smell of using SALT II to reduce our sophistication but not theirs. We would have to give up something if anything were to come of such jawing. We have all the MIRV's and they have none. There was no hint of what the Russians might offer to balance any concessions of ours, and in our view MIRV's could be better discussed within the whole framework of SALT II. The proposal made it obvious that in their own councils the Russians had targeted on our lead in MIRV's as our greatest nuclear advantage over them.

Of course, talk is free, and in a vacuum there'd be nothing to lose from MIRV talks except perhaps wasted time. But such talks aren't in a vacuum. Separate talks on a MIRV limit that weren't extremely circumspect could raise opposition at home. Sen. Henry Jackson, for instance, is fearful of all strategic arms limitations talks. A powerful voice in the Senate on national security, he grasps the Russian MIRV ploy as well as anyone and, in the end, any agreements must be run through the Senate. Also, our intelligence reports that Russia has now developed a successful trial MIRV.

SALT II recessed late last year with no answer from us. The President and Mr. Kissinger then mulled over what we would propose in separate MIRV talks, if held. Their general idea is some kind of proposition to keep our MIRV's right where they are and let the Russians catch up part way, then negotiate an equalizing balance. But if that were all, it would upset the total balance, letting the Russians start the "limitations" by gaining on us in total nuclear effectiveness while we voluntarily hold back. The idea rings in other complications, too, which get fantastically involved. So we say that a lot more

would have to go into any agreement that would let Russia catch up somewhat on MIRV's while we sit idle.

Before Brezhnev came here in June it became more or less official that the two sides *would* agree to some kind of MIRV talks.

SALT II talks had already resumed in mid-March, and very little was heard about it in the following months. Security is so tight that at this writing one can learn almost nothing about how things are going, or what balls are being bounced around. About all we have to go by is part of the President's official for-

prerequisite is to set up Most Favored Nation machinery with her. She wouldn't be *the* most favored nation, but one more MFN. She is not now an MFN. For the kind of long-range trade on the big business level that the President and hungry American corporations are interested in, and that Brezhnev says he is interested in, the web of trade relationships we have with other MFN's don't exist between us and Russia, and can't simply be duplicated.

How do you pay back and forth? How are prices arrived at? What are the tariff regulations and credit ar-

WIDE WORLD



West Germany's agreements with Russia produced the Soviets' new deal on Berlin (above), and encouraged the West to start broader talks with the communists on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In them, both sides are playing a cagey game.

eign policy report of last spring in which he pledged to move cautiously and do nothing to endanger U.S. or allied security. He itemized so many broad things that we would insist on, that what it really looks like is that we will let the Russians have MIRV talks in name only. We will drag into them the whole sweep of SALT II by talking about everything in order to talk about MIRV's.

What's happening now is plainly Mr. Kissinger's sole baby, under the President. The most garrulous official in Washington suddenly comes down with lockjaw when reporters get around to SALT II.

One thing is for sure. No substantial agreement is apt to come out of SALT II for several years. Negotiating on missile technology is far more arduous and sensitive than jawing about numbers of missiles and ABM's.

WELL, LET'S look at MFN. That means *Most Favored Nation*. We are moving ahead with the intention of expanding trade with the Soviet Union, as everyone knows. But trade is conducted by procedures. To implement more trade with Russia, a

rangements? This is no mere passing of a few goods back and forth, with caviar and vodka coming our way. With Russia's state system, there are a lot of wrinkles to be ironed out to make *big* business in *big* commodities and *big* services flow. What status and protections will our people have if engineers, oil crews, metallurgists, accountants, etc., are working in Siberia?

There are no formal MFN talks. Trade details are worked out in continuing talks on all sorts of things with the Soviets, and the final MFN for us must be an Act of Congress. The President may have as hard a time negotiating with Congress as with the Russians. Senator Jackson, for example again, wants Russia to swap some *policy* for any increased trade with us, like easing the emigration of Soviet Jews. We have many influential people, including Jackson, who don't want the Russians to get any bargain prices. Whatever its merits, who doesn't recall the recent howl about the conditions of the latest Soviet wheat deal?

Enough for a guide to what MFN is about. This ends our peek at four

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major East-West talks. We now have two major West-West talks to consider.

THE TWO West-West talks we'll look at are IMF and GATT. Talks with our friends are more difficult in many ways than those with the communists. We have more intricate existing relationships with them. We expect and need results, while if Russian talks get nowhere, so what? We were nowhere already. We want to keep our friends while we settle differences with them. On the other side there are no friends to lose.

For a long time, we were Santa Claus to the free world and had so many of our own people who wanted to keep being Santa Claus that our friends in Europe and Japan wouldn't take the toughest questions from our point of view too seriously. We like things as they are, they said, and you wouldn't really do anything nasty to change them. When our support of the overseas dollar got us into serious trouble with our gold supply, Mr. De Gaulle, then running France, virtually told us we'd get no help from him. Give me my gold for your paper, he said. Only when the situation got worse for everyone did our other friends consent to patchwork emergency measures to prop up our dollar. During the same period—pre-1972—we had all the worst of export-import trade arrangements with our friends, very largely due to our support of the dollar for their trade medium, and to our aid and defense giveaways. Also, after we all got together to reduce tariffs, some of our best friends invented sneaky substitutes for tariffs to use against us.

When we complained, they said: "America may have the worst of the arrangements, but she has the best of the trade." That's because for years we were so far ahead. But having the worst of the arrangements steadily eroded our lead in actual trade until, in 1971, we had our first balance-of-trade deficit in this century.

Still, they wouldn't take us seriously until Mr. Nixon gave them a shock treatment. When he started our price controls, he also slapped a temporary 10% import duty on everything and took the first of the steps by which we undermined our decades-long support of the dollar as the international money.

The rest is recent headline history. They have taken us seriously. Japan—for instance—has agreed to put some limits on how much of its goods

it dumps here. The Western nations are in a tizzy about how to come up with a sound new international currency. They are all ready to talk about writing a new book on international trade agreements. Suddenly our goods are cheaper abroad and theirs are more expensive here—very largely because we no longer support an artificially high value for the overseas dollar. When major new talks begin, President Nixon envisions nothing short of construction of a new world economic order.

IMF is the *International Monetary Fund*. It was created, as was the World Bank, at Bretton Woods al-

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Our new plans to do big business with Russia, symbolized by the big Occidental Petroleum Corp. deal arranged earlier this year (above), can't get fully under way until the two nations hammer out MFN (Most Favored Nation) trade machinery.

most 30 years ago. Its directors include the finance ministers of the member nations. Its annual meetings are the usual arena for monetary combat among Western nations. Differences are nearly always aired and sometimes ironed out. At its 1973 meeting, set to start in late September in the East African city of Nairobi, Kenya, the IMF directors will certainly wrestle with the question of what to do to reestablish a firm international money. It is doubtful that they will come up with much, but the words that come out of this year's IMF meeting will probably be good background for what will develop in the next few years. The money question is related to pending trade discussions. If we get the new economic order, 1975 may be the magic date to see what it will look like, including what kind of money will serve thereafter. The year 1975 is the target date for ending major trade talks among

Japan, the European Common Market, the United States, and their smaller friends, which will largely come under the heading of GATT.

THOSE HARD sounding initials—GATT—mean *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*. GATT meetings have been held in the past. One of them to reduce tariffs was known in the news jargon as the "Kennedy round." The next one may be known as the "Nixon round," for between now and 1975 the Western nations are planning to thrash out the crisis in trade and money agreements, precipitated both by events and the tougher attitudes adopted by the United States.

The looming GATT talks—and all the lesser ones that are already asso-

ciated with them—will be no picnic for anyone on many counts—including two major ones.

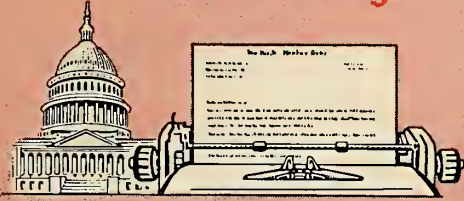
1. Nobody has a sure answer to the complex web of international trade and fiscal dilemmas now facing the West, which are marked by worldwide inflation and a general sense of insecurity over what passes for money.

2. While the negotiators are political friends, they are trade rivals as well as trade partners. In their rivalry, each will look for his best advantage. Yet, as mutual customers of each other, they know their prosperity is interdependent.

A committee of 20 Western nations, large and small, has been meeting on and off for the last few months to try to shape the outlines of the big sessions to come. The IMF meeting in Nairobi beginning this year will be part of the preliminaries. The GATT

(Continued on page 38)

Dateline Washington . . .



RUSSIA SEEKS SEA POWER. COMPUTER DATA CURBS URGED. LESS NOISE COMING?

Seapower advocates in Congress are becoming increasingly fearful that the United States is taking a back seat to Russia in the economic as well as military utilization of the oceans. Chairman Ernest F. Hollings (S.C.) of the Senate's Subcommittee on Oceans, in calling for a stronger national policy, asserts that the United States has become a second- or third-rate maritime power.

Senator Hollings says that the Soviet Union not only has achieved the world's largest naval force, but has also surpassed the United States—or is in the process of passing us—in terms of merchant vessels, fishing fleets, intelligence-gathering ships, oceanographic research and deep-sea engineering. The Kremlin, he declares, is going all out to make Russia master of the seas at a time when the United States has been cutting back its own ocean programs.

He notes that in view of the nuclear standoff between the U.S. and the USSR, the Kremlin has turned to the sea for the military and economic battleground of tomorrow.

As a result of an advisory committee study, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is preparing legislation and regulations which would place restraints on computer data centers so as to protect individual citizens against "technological tyranny."

The year-long study, released by HEW Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, calls for safeguards against automated personal data systems in order to guarantee individuals the right to get a copy of any information about them being maintained in the computerized files; the right to challenge the data, and the right to learn for what purpose the data are being used.

The study also opposed utilization of the Social Security number as a universal U.S. identification system, unless stringent curbs against abuse are first adopted.

It's only a first little step, and it won't go into effect until next year, but the

newly-proposed noise emission standards for huge interstate motor carriers, issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, offer hope that relief is on the way for our eardrums.

Motor vehicles are a major source of noise, with the 10,000-ton trucks—mainly diesel-engine powered—the principal villains, according to the EPA. Noise output of these big trucks generally increases with age. Proposed EPA rules would compel operators to reduce the noise levels of their trucks.

EPA is also planning to abate the noise assailing our ears from the air. An EPA study indicates that some 16 million Americans are affected by aircraft noise, and that only 10% of the country's commercial jets meet the noise level standard required for new aircraft.

PEOPLE & QUOTES

HOPE FOR PEACE

"When the two strongest nations of the world agree not to use force or threats of force . . . this action indeed gives profound hope to those throughout the world who want peace. . . ." President Nixon

DOWN UNDER

"We are a friend and partner of the U.S. . . . but with independent interests of our own." Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, Australia.

AUTO ALTERNATIVE

"We need a better alternative to driving. The answer is improved bus systems, with parking on the edge of town." Claude S. Brinegar, Transportation Sec'y.

SHOOT FROM HIP?

"... America now seems to have moved into an era in which crash solutions to crisis problems are the rule . . . we seem to want to shoot from the hip rather than stop to

think things out." Henry Ford II, chairman, Ford Motor Co.

LESS POLITICKING

"... with the advent of the electronic age of TV . . . the lengthy campaign period of the horse and buggy age is no longer a necessity to insure a candidate sufficient time to bring his message to the voter." Sen. Byrd (W.Va.).

CIVIL DEFENSE GOAL

"Our new objective is to advise citizens of best available protection . . . from fallout radiation . . . blast, fire and initial radiation—as well as the effects of wind-caused natural disasters." John E. Davis, director, Defense Civil Preparedness Agency.

TWO OF A KIND!

"The type of well-meaning young person who so readily accepts Marxist doctrine today is exactly the same as the type who accepted the Nazis." Professor Konrad Lorenz, Max Planck Institute for Behavioral Physiology.

What Happened To Lumber?

BY DALE WRIGHT

THE SUDDEN scarcity and inflated prices of lumber in the last few years have astonished and bewildered thousands of Americans who are quite used to soaring prices.

Two years ago, an eastern householder went to his small local lumber company to buy one sheet of plywood for some cabinets he was building. The manager told him that if he shopped around among bigger dealers he might find a sheet. He hadn't had any plywood in a month, and when he could find some the price was sky-high. He was almost out of 2x4's and sheathing, he said. He could no longer order what he wanted but was told by his distributors what he could have.

The customer walked out in astonishment, and within a year the small firm he had gone to got out of the lumber business after more than 30 years and converted some of its better outbuildings to office space for rent.

The lumber crunch has caused delays in construction in homes and office buildings, while its soaring prices have continually increased the cost of buildings already under construction.

An outfit in White Plains, N.Y., specializing in home remodeling and renovation, charges \$10,000 today for the same kind of job it got \$5,000 for a year ago. The boss of the company confirms what builders in other parts of the country have been saying. "It's outrageous what happened to lumber prices. The wholesaler won't quote for longer than five days at a time. By the time you figure a job and get the financing approved, the lumber costs may have gone up \$1,000."

On the average, lumber represents 29% of the construction cost of a new house, according to the National Association of Homebuilders. The inflation of lumber is thus a major factor in the increase in home construction costs.

The general inflation of everything that we are all so alarmed about is discussed in terms of 3% to 6% a year. In the last couple of years, lumber price inflation in the order of 30% to 50% has been commonplace, tacked onto similar increases in the preceding years.

In 1972, lumber prices were already sky-high. Yet even though there has been a marked softening

since last January, look at where the price of 1,000 board feet of southern pine 2x4's was in some sample areas in early summer 1973, compared to a year earlier.

In Atlanta it was up more than 38% over 1972, rising from \$148 to \$205; in Chicago it was up more than 41%, from \$177 to \$250; in Kansas City it had risen more than 47%, from \$180 to \$265; in New Orleans it was up nearly 32%, from \$148 to \$195.

Sheathing grade plywood—used in large quantities for homes and offices—was up exactly 50% this summer over a year ago in the Maryland-District of Columbia area. In 1972, a sheet sold for the then incredible price of \$8. Early this summer it was \$12. And yet the previous inflation had turned down.

Somewhere between 10,000 and 12,000 board feet of lumber plus around 4,500 square feet of plywood are used in the average single family new residence. And as the cost of new buildings goes up, the price of old buildings joins the parade.

A nationwide New York Times survey this summer finds that along the mid-Southern Atlantic seaboard, the cost of a three-bedroom house has risen an average of \$5,000 in the last three years. In Chicago, says the survey, homes that sold for \$21,000 in 1961 fetched \$41,000 last year and are now going for between \$43,000 and \$45,000.

Would-be homeowners, says the United Press, find themselves short of needed dollars to meet down-payment requirements to qualify for mortgages, or are simply priced right out of the market. And though interest rates have been rising again, while the cost of labor and everything else is up, the most inflated construction item of all, by a long shot, is lumber.

"How come lumber more than anything else?" people want to know.

The answer is fascinating. The lumber business is almost a perfect mirror of scores of other things that happen in the country. Its price and availability are related to environmentalists and ecologists, poverty, freight cars, floods, foreign markets and trade agreements, price controls, interest rates and the mortgage money supply. It reacts to price controls very much as food does, becoming scarcer and costlier in spite of controls.

What happened to lumber since 1968, and particularly in the 1970's, is a history of the United States in those years—more perfectly mirrored, perhaps, than in any other single aspect of our surroundings.*

The tale begins with the fact that lumber is almost a pure supply-and-demand business. There are not many businesses that are so simply ruled by supply and demand. Salesmanship and promotion have less to do with it than with most businesses. Styling and new models are no part of it. Annual tooling up, advertising and a host of major problems to other businesses are either absent from the lumber business or are not very important to general trends.

While raising new crops of trees is vital, growing trees is such a long-range affair that lumber does not react to seasonal feasts and famines that afflict farming. Unless the demand and price are right for the producer, there is no need to harvest the whole crop.

Every business is ruled to some extent by costs, but lumber is probably less dominated by costs than any other major business. Demand may go up and down, but it is always there and the customers pay what they have to. Lumber continues to be the preferred material for most of its construction uses. Wood substitutes bother the business very little. If demand forces the price up, the use of substitutes grows, but lumber still sells. If the price drops, the use of substitutes drops and the customers return to using more lumber. They like it.

Finally, there is a limit to the number of trees that can be harvested in one year. When the demand approaches that limit, the price soars. When it exceeds that limit, the price goes through the roof. The supply does not increase proportionately, and the available timber goes to the highest bidders.

This is the general nature of the business. But a host of things influence the supply and demand, and some of them change all the time. What has happened recently is an eye opener about a lot of other things.

We start with a success story. In 1968, the federal and many of the

* Facts and figures in this article refer only to lumber and timber softwoods ordinarily used in construction. Different facts and figures would apply to pulpwood, and to hardwoods largely used in furniture-making.



With a million more houses being built a year, the demand for lumber—and its price—soared to new heights in '71 and '72.

state and city governments embarked on several campaigns to have more houses built in the United States. The Congress passed the Housing Act of 1968 calling for 26 million new and rehabilitated dwellings in ten years. For the poor in the cities, more federal, state and city public housing projects were started. Housing subsidies were also provided for them. For those who could build or buy their own new houses, efforts were made to hold interest rates down and see that plenty of mortgage money was available.

Money and mortgages had been tight for a long time and the lack of good housing was a national concern. In 1968, about 1.5 million new houses were started. The national effort to get more built worked very well. In 1971, 2.1 million new housing units were started. Last year a shade under 2.4 million were begun—nearly a million more than five years earlier. In this same period the big modern land speculation and development boom got rolling, which included second homes and retirement homes for countless people on seashores and in mountains and desert.

This huge housing boom was enough all by itself to send the demand and hence the price of lumber soaring.

In most businesses, such a demand would have excited an open-ended increase in production. Those in the business would have produced to the hilt, and new competitors would have come on the scene to grab a share of the lumber market (which would have helped keep the supply up

and the price rises within limits).

Lumber doesn't work that way at all. More than half of our standing commercial softwood timber is on the nearly one-third of our 500 million acres of timberland that is owned by the federal government. It is managed by the U.S. Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture.

Since its inception, the Forest Service has been charged with managing the national forest lands and selling timber from them to the commercial mills. Each year it determines how much timber may be sold, a figure based generally on not exceeding the amount of new growth chargeable to that year.

It calculates the minimum price at which it will sell its set limit of standing timber. It then sells to the highest bidders provided they meet the minimum price set.

This auction reinforces the price structure based on demand, since the Forest Service gets the highest possible price that the market will bear for its trees. This tends to set the price for private stands of timber, too. If the retail demand for lumber is as enormous as it has been recently, and if the amount of timber that can be harvested is well short of the demand—as it now is—the mills will try to outbid each other for timber to the limit of what they think they can pass on to their customers, in order to get the wood.

Thus, we have government operating on both the supply and demand end of the soaring lumber costs. With its encouragement of new building

it boosted the demand. With its limits on how much wood it would provide from its substantial timber holdings—and with its practice of selling to the highest bidder—it holds the supply in check and boosts raw material prices to the maximum.

One should not put too hasty moral values on this much of the picture. Housing is needed for the people, yet the national forests must be sustained. We are simply taking a look at how it works, which has the appearance of a dilemma.

During recent years, when the demand for lumber increased so greatly, the Forest Service has actually *reduced* somewhat the amount of timber going to the mills from the national forests.

Since the 1950's, around 11 billion board feet have come from them each year. In the last two years the average has been a little less than that. With new houses being erected at a pace of a million or so a year more than in the 1960's, it takes no imagination to see that unless the Forest Service provided much more timber the lumber scarcity was inevitable.

The lumber industry does not fault the government for limiting sales or auctioning its timber. But it says that the Forest Service could do a great deal to increase the yield of national forest timber, so that more could be sold without depleting reserves. In fact, the industry says that with intensive management of our available timber lands we could have all the lumber we need and more for a steady export business.

The industry represents the Forest

ILLUSTRATED BY BOB CLARKE

What Happened To Lumber?

Service to be a federal stepchild, which has not received what it needs from the government to make the national forests more productive.

Today, the Service even faces cut-backs in funding. The prices people are now paying for lumber, say industry spokesmen, are in part the national comeuppance for pushing the demand for lumber sky-high since 1968, without foreseeing that a scarcity was unavoidable if the Forest Service was not armed at the same time to produce more.

The U.S. Forest Service is a small agency for its job, and has not been equipped to do the kind of intensive planting, growing, harvesting and replacement that the lumber industry does on its own timberlands. This, says the industry, is why the Forest Service could not have increased the national forest output.

The chief reason why the Forest Service actually reduced its sawtimber output was that in these same years the pressures of the environmental movement diverted the attention of the Forest Service's small force to a more vigorous look at its own management of the forests. Whether this was all to the good, or all to the bad, or a bit of both, the fact is that the limited energies and resources of the Forest Service were diverted from timber production to environmental matters at the same time that the demand for production became the greatest in modern times.

The service even developed a large backlog of uncut timber which had been auctioned in previous years. Meanwhile, last year it determined that 13.5 billion board feet *could* be sold, but in its handicapped condition it only managed to put 10 billion on the market.

The answer to this part of the lumber riddle, says the industry, is for the Congress to augment the Forest Service so that it can have the manpower and resources for both adequate environmental controls of its forest management and increased production.

Intensive management of the federal forests could easily double their timber output without depleting them in the least, according to the general consensus of those in forestry here and abroad.

Industry-owned timberlands produce more timber in total, and more new growth of timber in total, than do the national forests, though the industry lands amount to only 17.6% of our timber acreage while the national forests comprise 30.8% of it.

If you think this much explains the lumber scarcity and prices, it ought to. But it is far from the whole story.

Scarce as it is on our home market, we have been exporting timber in large amounts. A great hue and cry has gone up over our export of so much timber at a time of national scarcity and demand.

In 1971, we exported enough logs from the West Coast to produce 2.4 billion board feet of lumber if milled here. In 1972, the figure rose to enough logs to make 3.5 billion board feet. Japan and Australia are the main customers, chiefly Japan. She is so short of sawtimber that she willingly pays the sky-high American prices, sends her ships to Washington, Oregon and Alaska, hauls the logs home, and cuts them up into the sizes of lumber used in Japan.

This situation isn't as bad as it seems, in net results, for we import nearly three times as much lumber as is in the trees we export. Our chief foreign source is Canada, from whom we currently buy about 9 billion board feet—a quarter of our supply and nearly as much as we get from our national forests. So, in balance, we get more wood from abroad than we sell overseas. Even so, why do we export so much when we need it all here?

If you buy a Japanese camera, or radio or car, you are one of the reasons. Japan sells so much here that in order to get our dollars back we have struggled to make agreements with her to buy substantial amounts of goods here. Sawtimber is one of the things we have for which Japan is desperate. We are selling her timber as a matter of international economic policy, to get our money back for all those Japanese goods sold here.

That's still not the whole picture. The Phase II price controls caused untold confusion in the lumber industry, led to local lumber shortages and increased the scarcity of lumber by causing many mills to close down and many dealers and mills to change what they sold. And Phase II didn't keep the price down. How this all happened is almost too much to digest, but the broader outlines are very revealing about the difficulty of controlling the prices and supplies of certain kinds of goods.

Phase II based each dealer's and each mill's prices for finished lumber on its own selling price as of an arbitrary date. The price of lumber is always going up and down, both seasonally and regionally. Some dealers and mills were locked to prices that were relatively low and some to prices that were relatively high for the times—for the same products.

Standing timber (a raw vegetable product) was not controlled—nor, at the other end, was the price of houses. So the government itself and anyone else who had standing timber could sell it to the highest bidder. Building contractors, desperate for lumber, could bid against each other to get their hands on the highest priced lumber available—and pass the cost on in higher building costs. Those mills and dealers who had been lucky enough to be brought under controls when their prices were up



Uncle Sam auctions timber from federal forests to the highest bidders, and limits the amount he'll sell each year.

could outbid the unlucky ones who were caught with their prices down.

The available supply of lumber and timber started to gravitate to those who could sell for the highest prices under the controls.

But there was a way out for those who could only be ruined if they bought timber at high, uncontrolled prices and sold lumber at low, controlled prices. If a mill had made 2x4's and was price-controlled on them, but had not made 2x12's, it could switch to making 2x12's and set a fresh price on them as the basis under which it would be controlled. By this device (the only possible one for many in the lumber business), the prices rose in spite of the controls—as dealers and mills switched to products they hadn't sold before. If a mill that hadn't made 2x12's started making them it could sell them at a higher price than a mill that had been making them all along.

Another aspect of Phase II increased the scarcity of lumber. A mill could not make more than 5% profit in a year under Phase II. Many mills were filling back orders for lumber with timber they'd had in inventory for several years, bought at lower

prices. At current prices they had a high profit margin on it. Long before the year was up they had made the limit of their 5% annual profit. If they stayed in business, all they could do would be to sell their remaining inventory at cost, lest they exceed the 5% profit limit. There remained nothing to do in a time of a great scarcity of lumber but to close down for the rest of the year. Naturally, the scarcity got worse.

Phase II created an unbelievable complex of other problems for the lumber industry, and for lumber customers. For instance, with one fourth of our construction lumber coming from Canada, there was no price control, and couldn't be any, on the initial U.S. purchase price paid for Canadian wood. Naturally, the bidding for Canadian lumber went through the roof, and Phase II could only control the markup on it after it had been bought.

The lumber industry screamed bloody murder over Phase II as being no good at all for the lumber industry or lumber buyers, and it appears to have been vindicated. When Phase II ended last January, there was an immediate easing in lumber prices. Lumber will now be exempted from Phase IV and again become a product in a free market.

At least temporarily, the tight lumber situation is going to continue to ease off. But hardly back to the easier conditions of a few years ago.

The disruptions and contradictions of Phase II are over. The demand is being reduced a little. The government has backed away from a lot of its subsidized housing. Interest rates on mortgages have been rising, and this has cut back private home building. The industry says getting rid of all price controls is going to be better than staying with them, not only for itself, but for prices and supply. Any controlled industry would say that, but in the case of lumber it seems to be true.

This is not all to the good. Even if the inflation of lumber slows, it is not going to stop as things are now going. We are short of available lumber for our needs. It is hardly a sound remedy to solve lumber problems by doing without needed construction.

The environmental movement is choking off some of the lumber supply. Riding on a wave of public support, it is politically powerful. It is a good and long-needed movement, but it goes to extremes, often flexing its present muscle to pit purely sentimental values against acute national needs—and sometimes ignoring the needs.

In time this will be self-correcting.

When their overly sentimental demands cause too much public pain, a reaction against the environmental extremists is certain.

There is plenty of room for reform in harvesting timber, but the wilder environmentalists call for reforms without much regard for lumber production. We need the production to rise even as we need to strengthen the conservation of our woodlands. A balanced effort in both directions is entirely possible—with many more standing trees and many more cut trees.

There have been bills of all sorts in Congress on lumber questions—bills to limit exports, bills to restrict methods of harvesting, bills for this and that.

Taking the long view, the lumber industry proposes that the Forest Service be made more effective and given the tools to be more effective. There is no true national investment to increase lumber production, though a substantial investment in it would pay off. As a rule of thumb, \$1 invested in scientific timberland management yields \$4.

Properly funded, the Forest Service could satisfy the actual environmental needs (however they are determined) and vastly multiply tree growth and harvesting without depleting the supply. It wouldn't take much more money than what the Forest Service gets from its annual timber sales. As it is, it is allowed about that much for its whole budget, but has to spend a good deal of it on activities unrelated to timber management.

The lumber industry says that our timber acreage is ample to grow more than we need for a long time if we use it and use it intelligently, and if we make a proper investment for a future payoff. And only with an ample supply will prices tumble significantly. Japan is setting the pace in this kind of management. Hardly able to provide any of its lumber today, it will probably be able to provide half of its needs by the turn of the century on acreage far below our 500 million acres of timberland.

If our industry's proposals are self-serving—and they are—they seem also to be in the public interest. The public wants wood to use at a fair price, and it wants its forests, too. Only intensive development and renewal of existing timber acres can provide both.

Bills supported by environmentalists are now proposed to police timber harvesting practices more rigidly. Realistic controls to protect the timberlands from abuse are in order, but they will not help the supply. They

could increase the lumber scarcity, making it all the more necessary to take other steps to provide enough wood for a lumber-hungry land.

The forest products industries favor a bill introduced by Sen. Mark Hatfield (Ore.) which would plow income from federal timber sales into a fund for reforestation and timber production, and provide incentives for getting relatively idle timberland into more production.

That last refers to an enormous potential of 296 million acres of private woodlands, averaging 74 acres per holding, that are underproducing wood products. The Hatfield "incentives" are aimed at getting them to produce and regenerate more timber.

There will probably be a lot of



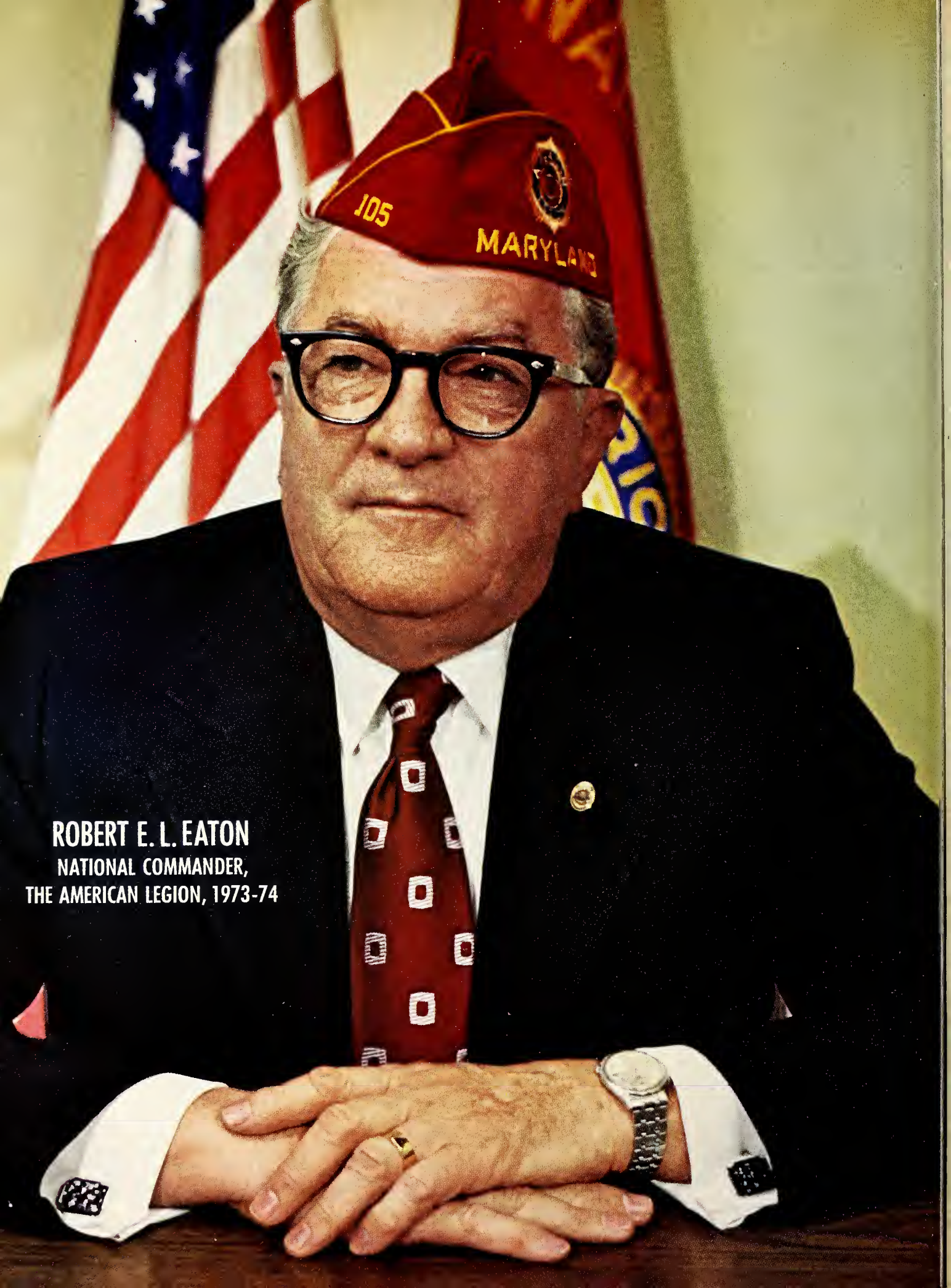
There has been a great hue and cry over our export of logs, chiefly to Japan and Australia.

hassling and compromise before any significant new law is enacted on lumber. Even if energetic steps are taken to bring the lumber supply in line with the demand, a sustained downward trend in lumber prices will take a long time.

If you are planning to build a house now, should you wait for lumber to ease off more? The general view of experts—including Dr. John I. Zerbe of the Forest Service and Paul S. Forster of Engineering News-Record—is, "don't wait."

Lumber prices are down and will slip some more. In fact, says Forster, compared to the last few years, the long-term prospects for lumber buyers appear "bright." "But if you can get the money and the builder has the time," build now, don't wait.

The fact is, the customer can't win by waiting today. Other costs, such as land, financing and labor edge in to keep the cost of new housing up. Easier lumber is most apt to stop costs from rising so fast. END.



ROBERT E. L. EATON
NATIONAL COMMANDER,
THE AMERICAN LEGION, 1973-74

The NATIONAL COMMANDER of the AMERICAN LEGION

By R. B. PITKIN

ROBERT E. LEE EATON, a Mississippi-born Marylander, was elected National Commander of The American Legion for 1973-74 on Thursday, Aug. 23, 1973, at the final session of the Legion's 1973 National Convention in the Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Eaton is the only career military officer ever to head The American Legion. A West Pointer of the Class of 1931, he spent 31 years on active duty in the Army and Air Force. Immediately on being commissioned a second lieutenant in 1931, he went into flying in the early days of the Army Air Corps. He retired from the Air Force in 1962, after 15 years as a major general.

Eaton was a pioneer in military aviation weather forecasting, and was chief of the Weather Central division of the Army Air Forces in 1942-43. Then for 17 months he commanded the 451st Bomb Group in WW2, flying 50 missions in B-24s from Italy. He was next the Paris-based deputy director of all U.S. strategic bombing operations in Europe, during the months when they reached their wartime peak.

He helped give birth to a separate U.S. Air Force and the merging of our military into one Department of Defense in the Pentagon after the war, serving in Washington as a top military liaison officer with Congress, and with national organizations to unify the armed forces.

In this work he first became intimately familiar with The American Legion. Part of his assignment was to help enlist the Legion's support for the creation of a single Defense Department, and the Legion had reservations about it. In the end, the Legion supported the Pentagon concept, while Eaton joined Post 105 in

Bethesda, Md., in 1946 and has been one of Maryland's Legion leaders ever since.

For eight years after WW2, Eaton served in various high legislative, information and liaison capacities in the Pentagon. Then, from 1953 to 1955, he commanded the 6th Allied Tactical Air Force in Izmir, Turkey—which is another way of saying he was the NATO air commander in the eastern Mediterranean. For the next four years he commanded the 10th Air Force at Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan. When he retired in 1962 he was assistant chief of staff for reserve forces.

Bob Eaton's high military rank and career as a professional soldier are bound to stir up discussion about the amount of military rank held by Legion Commanders over the years.

Wearers of stars are a rare breed in the office.

There have been no admirals.

One previous Commander had been a wartime general when he led the Legion (James A. Drain, Washington, 1924-25).

One who had been a WW1 lieutenant colonel was a WW2 general in the Pacific 20 years after he served as Legion Commander (Hanford MacNider, Iowa, 1921-22).

Two served in lesser ranks in WW2, but were generals in their state Guard units when elected to head the Legion (John S. Gleason, Jr., Illinois, 1957-58 and William C. Doyle, New Jersey, 1968-69).

Two generals never served as National Commander, but were given the title of Past National Commander posthumously in recognition of their services in founding the Legion (Milton A. Foreman, Illinois, and Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., New York).

That completes the list, seven generals in all—including Eaton—out of 61 National Commanders and honorary National Commanders, five of

whom filled the office, four of whom were generals at the time. All but Eaton were one-star (brigadier) generals in the National Guard or Reserves, with lifetime civilian careers, though Gleason has since gotten his second star in the Army Reserve.

Lower commissioned and enlisted ranks have been the rule among Legion Commanders. As a two-star West Pointer, Eaton succeeds Joe L. Matthews, of Texas, who was a chief petty officer in the Seabees in WW2. Undoubtedly the lowest military rank held by a National Commander was that of W. C. "Dan" Daniel (1956-57), now a Congressman from Virginia, who was separated for physical reasons from WW2 Navy amphibious training before he had time to strike for a rating.

All of this is only for the record and to satisfy idle curiosity. One of the first rules established by the Legion was that military rank means nothing within it.

In the 11 years since his retirement from the Air Force, Bob Eaton has run his own public relations and management consulting firm in Washington, D.C.—Eaton Associates, Inc.—while continuing such a valuable Legion role that the Maryland Legion nominated him, and he was elected, to the office of National Vice Commander in 1970.

Last August, Eaton was elected National Commander not 12 miles from the scene of his first duty as a flying army officer 40 years earlier. After pilot training at Kelly and Randolph fields as a young lieutenant, he was assigned to Hawaii. From 1932 to 1935 he flew off of Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, then a rocky, bush-covered bit of ground with a grass airstrip called Luke Field. It was later that the Army built Hickam Field and turned Ford Island over to the Navy, and Eaton was long gone when the Japanese carrier planes came over the mountains on Dec. 7, 1941.

One might suppose that Robert Edward Lee Eaton was named by his parents in honor of the Confederate general Robert E. Lee. That's not exactly true, though as a boy born in 1909 in Hattiesburg, Miss., and raised on a cotton farm ten miles south of Greenville, Miss., it might have been. He was named for a respected second cousin of his father—and one-time sheriff of Perry County, Miss.—who had been named for General Lee.

The Eatons were old English and Irish stock who settled in the Carolinas in early colonial times. About 1819 a branch of the family moved out of South Carolina to Mobile Bay, then into Mississippi. They settled in

(Continued on page 40)

The American Legion's 55th National Convention



On the beach at Waikiki.



An eastern Oahu beach.



The Arizona Memorial.



Cmdr. Matthews & Hawaii Senator Inouye.



Polynesian dance.



Legion youth forum.



Indiana caucuses on beach.

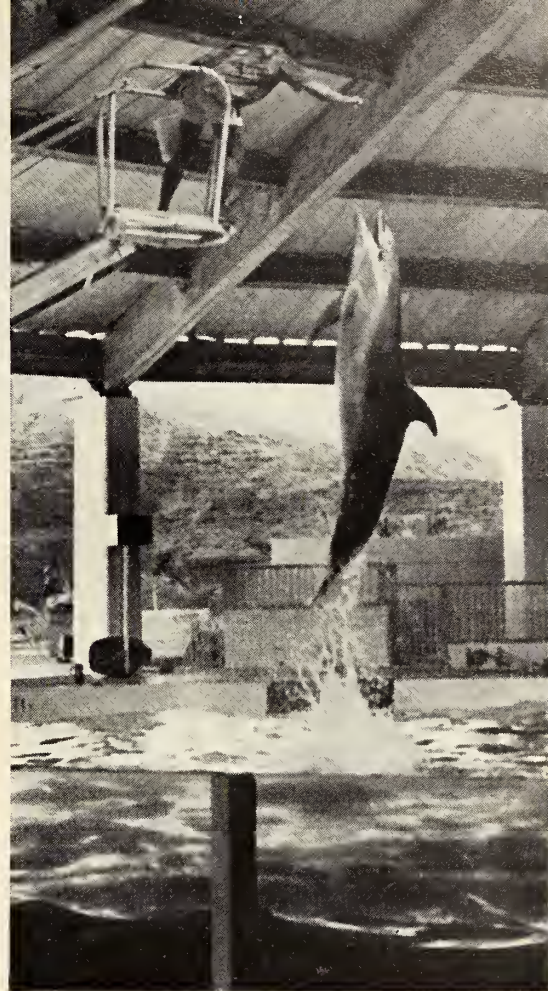
A REPORT FROM HONOLULU



THE 55TH NATIONAL CONVENTION of The American Legion was held in Honolulu on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, from Friday August 17 to Thursday, August 23, 1973. It was the second national Legion convention to have been held off of the U.S. mainland, the 1927 convention having been held in Paris.

It was the biggest convention ever held in Hawaii, and it so taxed the available supply of big jet charter planes that transportation to and from Hawaii was not wholly satisfactory. So many delegates could only be brought in late that the meetings of convention committees to screen resolutions had to be postponed a day and a half in order for all committee members to be present. At the end of the convention, flight plans required several delegations to leave so early that the election of national officers had to be moved forward from noon to 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 23, so that they could be present to vote. Nor could the hotels in Waikiki quite accommodate the convention on schedule. Some delegates had no rooms on arrival and members of some delegations had to move several times before occupying their ultimate hotel quarters.

But when all the headaches were



Sealife Park, Oahu.



Hawaii announces its biggest convention.



Waikiki's main street.

ironed out, the majority of visiting Legionnaires quite obviously enjoyed their Hawaiian convention. Those who had the very best time managed to arrange an extra week in Hawaii on their own before or after the convention. The two-week visitors did most of the sightseeing on the outer islands of Kauai, Maui and the Big Island of Hawaii, while most of the one-weekers had to be content with Oahu's offerings, which were enough to make it an enjoyable convention for most.

The Legion visitors also had the bad luck to run into a rare period of slack winds with intermittent gray skies and sticky weather. Perversely,



Iao Needle, Maui.

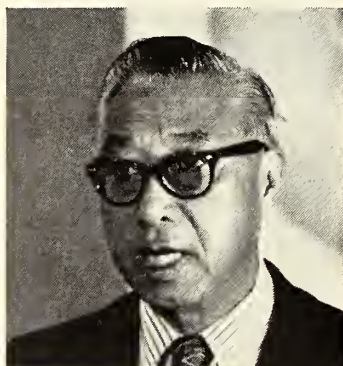


Polynesian Village show.

CONTINUED THE LEGION'S NATIONAL CONVENTION

they had no sooner departed than Honolulu's sky turned a bright blue and the northeast tradewinds blew up a refreshing half-gale.

Though no census was taken, it was obvious that the 1973 convention was one of the biggest Legion "family" conventions. There were more wives, husbands, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, children and grandchildren of Legionnaires to be seen than at any time in modern Legion history, thanks to the lure of Hawaii.



Hawaii's Sen. Hiram Fong speaks to Legion Economic Commission.

Travel costs to Hawaii made it too expensive for enough musical groups to get to the convention to hold the annual national musical and marching competitions, which were canceled for 1973 only. But several Legion musical groups and color guards were present, and, augmented by military bands based in Hawaii, they spiced up the big annual parade, which marched down Kalakaua Avenue in back of Waikiki Beach for four and a half hours, Monday, Aug. 20. Advance fears that the parade would be a dull affair without all the musical groups were dissipated when more Legionnaires turned out to march in it than have gone the route in many a recent mainland conven-

tion. They were rewarded by sidewalks packed with a large, friendly and cheering audience.

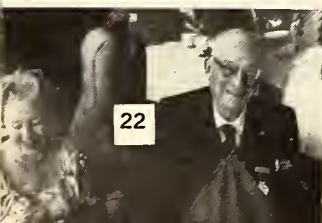
In its major business, the convention elected Robert E. L. Eaton of Maryland to be National Commander for 1973-74. It made one amendment to the Legion's Constitution, requiring that national dues collected from Posts be forwarded by the state organizations so as to reach the national treasurer within 30 days. The \$2.50 national dues for 1973 (including magazine subscription) were retained for 1974. Several vigorous resolutions for the welfare of children were adopted. Financial aid to North Vietnam was opposed, as was a general amnesty for draft evaders and deserters—for whom a review of each case was urged. Numerous resolutions were adopted to assure the United States of a strong national defense and a healthy merchant marine. Several programs to assure better



Jack Lord, of TV's Hawaii Five-O, speaks to convention.



Legion Patriotic and Memorial Service in Hawaiian Village's Long House.



employment for handicapped veterans, aging veterans and Vietnam veterans were supported. The delegates did not see eye-to-eye with the Convention Committee on National Security in the matter of supporting flight pay for non-flying qualified Air Force pilots, and defeated from the floor a proposal to support it.

The convention passed numerous resolutions to strengthen veterans benefits and assure adequate Veterans Administration facilities and funds to administer them, and to preserve the VA as a single agency responsible for veterans' care and benefits. It also supported pending legislation to limit the power of the VA and the Administration to seriously alter veterans benefits without Congressional review.

All told, the convention adopted 114 resolutions, each of which is briefly digested at the end of this report.

THE THREE-DAY business sessions of the full convention in the Hawaiian Village's Coral Ballroom had few empty seats during most hours of the meetings, despite the lure of Hawaii's attractions. When Jack Lord, star of TV's Hawaii Five-O, received a Legion citation for his contribution to respect for law and order, he chose to respond with a brief but beautifully delivered sentimental message of thanks, during which one could have heard the proverbial pin drop in the hall. Later, one of the greatest standing ovations ever given a speaker at a Legion convention was accorded Rear Admiral James Bond Stockdale and his wife, at the conclusion of Adm. Stockdale's dramatic account of his brutal experience as a POW in Vietnam, and the meaning of it.

Adm. Stockdale credited his survival and that of other prisoners to their American heritage and the American military ethic. The spirit that enabled them to return home with their self-respect after long confinement, while subjected to harsh mental and physical pressures, was the spirit laid down in America 200 years ago, he said. It made them "more than a match for a rigged environment" of a closed society which sought, by bestial treatment and clever psychological pressures, to get them to disown their heritage for propaganda effect.

Mrs. Stockdale presented the Legion with a plaque in appreciation of the Legion's services to the families



Part of crowd at Nat'l Commander's Dinner for Distinguished Guests.



Parade units near end of route on Kalakaua Avenue.





CONTINUED THE LEGION'S NATIONAL CONVENTION

Western end of Maui seen by flying tour group.

of prisoners of war and the missing in action in Vietnam—both for its support of their long efforts and for providing the families with space for their organization in the Legion's Washington office while they were working for the freedom of their loved ones.

In his report for the year, outgoing National Commander Joe L. Matthews said, in part, that "with the cease fire in Vietnam came the return of the POWs, and a part of a long-standing American Legion project was accomplished." He noted that The American Legion stands in oppo-

sition to any United States aid, public or private, for the reconstruction of North Vietnam.

"This year," he said, "we continued our battle to maintain the integrity of the VA hospital-medical care system as a system solely for the benefit of the nation's veteran population. . . . We saw some improvement in educational benefits under the GI Bill for Vietnam veterans, not as much as we wanted, but progress nevertheless." He touched on funds for the VA, restoration of Nov. 11 as Veterans Day, free educational opportunities for dependents of men who were held pris-

oners of war or listed as missing in action, and the failure of the fight to have induction authority of the Selective Service System extended until June 30, 1975. Referring to his visits to Russia and Poland, he said, "Since our return, I have been asked practically everywhere I have gone how I would assess the accomplishments of that first American Legion contact with the veterans of communist countries. I could say only that we have taken a very small step through a door held very tentatively ajar. The fact remains that the door was opened and the step was taken and the visit must rate the stamp of moderate success." The convention later commended Matthews for his exploratory trip to the communist lands and his conduct of it.

Admiral Noel Gayler, Commander in Chief of U.S. forces in the Pacific, addressed the convention on August 22. Much of his talk was a plea for a more wholesome attitude toward the military, which, he said, is certainly as vital for the nation as for those in service. He reminded the Legionnaires of the necessity for such a large American presence in the Pacific, and he spoke with compassion of the trials of the 400,000 men and women in the Pacific command. Their duty is "sometimes tough, isolated, deadly service," he said. He asked for support in turning around many loose attacks on the services "to help us in every possible way to keep the quality of our people . . . and of our officer corps where it ought to be so that it can provide the needed leadership." The military, he said, is subject to hostility, indifference and cheap criticism, where it needs support and public concern. "Without



New Nat'l officers, Sons of The American Legion. From left, Douglas Bible, Minn., Nat'l Vice Cdr, West; William Verhelst, Jr., Ohio, Nat'l Vice Cdr, East; James Hartman, Jr., Md., Nat'l Commander; James F. Jackson, Pa., National Chaplain.



Aloha
**AMERICAN
LEGION**

dedicated people," he said, "there is no quality. Without quality there is no capability. Without capability there can be no security. Mature and responsible people have to mobilize public opinion to these realities. This is my message and I hope this convention will help to spread it. . . ."

The Sons of The American Legion held their second national convention in Hawaii. More than 150 members of the SAL made it to Hawaii as delegates. Several of the Detachments (state or equivalent units) received commendations for their outstanding growth. Indiana, with more than 2,000 members, led the list. Others cited were: California, Colorado, Kentucky, Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, New Jersey, Philippines, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Missouri and Michigan. The SAL appointed a large number of national standing committees, including Americanism, Finance, Rehabilitation, Internal Affairs, Legislative and Community Service.

A photo identifying the four top national SAL officers elected in Honolulu accompanies this report.

The American Legion Auxiliary held its convention in Honolulu concurrently with the Legion convention. The Auxiliary elected as National President for 1973-74 Mrs. B.N. (Mary Sue) Jarrett, of Shelby, N.C., succeeding Mrs. Thomas Gerald Chilton of Superior, Ariz.

Other Auxiliary officers elected included: Mrs. Maurice Kubby (Tex.), Nat'l Vice President; Mrs. J. Luitink (N.Y.), Nat'l Chaplain; Mrs. Audrey Starke (Ga.), Nat'l Historian, and the following Division Vice Presidents: Mrs. Nile Fuller (Wisc.), Mrs. Vincent O'Brien (R.I.), Mrs. Wesley Sather (N.Dak.), Mrs. Nell Burt (Ariz.) and Mrs. J. Brown Whitten (Miss.).

At a meeting in Hawaii the Nat'l Executive Committee reappointed Nat'l Adj't William F. Hauck, Nat'l Judge Advocate Bertram G. Davis, and Nat'l Treasurer Francis W. Polen. It also confirmed its fall meeting dates (Oct. 17-18) and those of the Annual Conference of Dep't Cmdrs and Adjts (Oct. 15-16), both at Indianapolis Nat'l Hq., following a Homecoming for Nat'l Cmdr Robert E.L. Eaton in Baltimore, Md., on Oct. 12-13-14.

Also confirmed were (a) the dates of the Annual Washington Conference (Mar. 4-8) with Banquet to Congress (Mar. 6), (b) spring meetings of Commissions & Committees (April



Party hosted by Legion founder Frank Schwengel, Dan O'Sullivan & Seagram Posts.



A poolside social hosted by Schenley Industries and Schenley Post 1190, N.Y.

29-30) and spring meeting of the Nat'l Executive Committee (May 1-2)—both at Indianapolis.

Mrs. Clare Booth Luce was slated to receive the Legion's "Fourth Estate Award" on the stage of the convention for outstanding work in American journalism, but illness prevented her from attending.

The convention was the occasion for many other awards to and from the Legion. Most of the presentations are indicated in accompanying photos.

The convention approved a Legion program and theme based on the thought "Be Counted Again." The central thought is one that has always been held by millions of veterans who have joined the Legion—that those who served their country in war might be "counted again" by serving community, state and nation in the Legion. In one aspect of the "Be Counted Again" program, any eligible veteran wanting to be counted again in the Legion has been able,



A group of Legionnaires inducted into honorary membership in Anavicus, the U.S. affiliate of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada.





The official convention badge.

since Sept. 1, to call a publicized toll-free number (800-424-8834) anywhere in mainland United States. A taped message invites him to leave his name, address and phone number as a basis for having a nearby Legion Post contact him with the object of inviting him to join and be "counted again" by being a part of the Legion's programs for veterans, youth, Americanism, community and hospital services, etc. Billboards, bumper stickers, etc., are available to publicize "Be Counted Again" and the toll-free number.

Ambitious plans for a special youth

program were developed as part of the Legion's plans for the nation's 200th anniversary in 1976. The Spirit of '76 Committee, chaired by Milton Carpenter (Mo.), heard a progress report on holding a joint Boys' Nation-Girls' Nation in 1976, which would be enlarged to include 300 boys and girls—all high school juniors—from the 40,000 or so in the 1976 Legion-Auxiliary Boys' and Girls' States. The national meeting would be extended from one week to three.

In addition to the annual programs of Boys' Nation and Girls' Nation in Washington, D.C., the 300 youngsters would remain in Washington to serve an "internship" of several days in the offices of their Congressmen and Senators, then visit Colonial Williamsburgh, Va., and possibly the battlefield at Yorktown and the historic Revolutionary sites in Philadelphia. Vietnam Vet Frank Naylor (Kans.) outlined progress of the plans for the Congressional "internship" for the youths, while Past Nat'l Cmdr Eldon James (Va.) outlined progress on plans for their visit to Williamsburgh.

A sad note was injected into the convention, when news arrived that Nat'l Cmdr Joe L. Matthews' oldest brother, Ralph, had died in his sleep in Sharon, Pa., just as the convention was about to open. Ralph Matthews, 74, was a WW1 veteran and a member of the Legion in Sharon. Nat'l Chaplain L. P. Fitzpatrick led the opening session in an observance memorializing him.

The convention adopted three resolutions dealing with the power of the Administration to choke off or reduce veterans benefits authorized by law. One was Res. 44, which consolidated separate resolutions emanating from the Legion in Arizona, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Texas and Oregon. It seeks new law to require the President to notify Congress of any intention to impound VA funds, and to provide a procedure under which Congress may halt such impoundment. The resolution noted that for many years the Office of Management and Budget (formerly the Budget Bureau) had engaged in systematic attempts to reduce VA funds, always at the expense of services to veterans and their dependents authorized by law.

Res. 336, emanating from Indiana, was adopted. It seeks new law to re-

quire proposed closings of VA medical facilities or regional offices by the Administration to be submitted to Congress.

Res. 335 supports new law to prevent the VA from arbitrarily revising the rating schedule for payment of



On the convention stage a winner is drawn for one of the four Ford automobiles awarded by the Legion's Seagram's Posts on Aug. 23. Winners of the cars, subject to confirmation of their membership, were: Bernard Cortell, Post 11, Brookline, Mass.; Eugene R. Burrows, Post 171, Wedona, Minn.; Clyde B. Edwards, Post 185, Jonesville, Va.; and Al Sanchez, Post 72, Albuquerque, N.M. None were present at drawing.





Delegates on floor during business session of convention in Coral Ballroom, Hawaiian Village.

compensation to war-disabled veterans on its sole authority. It asks that any such revisions be first submitted to Congress, and that they not be effective if, within 90 days, either house of Congress adopts a resolution opposing the revision. The resolution con-

solidated proposals to the convention from seven states.

The power of the President, the Office of Management and Budget and the VA to reduce the authorized veterans program independently of Congress in the areas covered by

Resolutions 44, 335 and 336 has been a thorn in the side of the nation's veterans programs for many years.

Numerous smaller organizations held concurrent meetings in Hawaii. The American Legion Press Association, comprised largely of the editors

Be counted again
Join
The American Legion



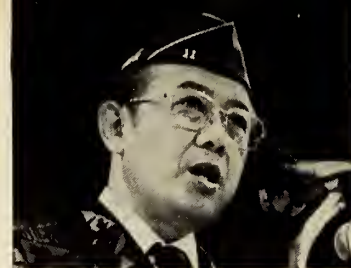
**AMONG
SPEAKERS
TO THE
CONVENTION**



Ex-POW Adm. James Stockdale.



VA chief Donald Johnson.



Wallace C. S. Young, Hawaii Legion NECman and head of the Convention Corporation.

CONTINUED THE LEGION'S NATIONAL CONVENTION

of Legion Post and Department newspapers, elected Robert K. Grabenbauer (Minn.) as its new president. Gilberto Font, of Puerto Rico, was elected to head FODPAL, the organization of Posts and Departments lying outside of the 50 states. At its annual breakfast the National Association of American Legion Department Historians heard a description of Francis Scott Key's experience in

writing the Star Spangled Banner, given by Dan Burkhardt, Legion Adjutant of Maryland. The Historians elected Greer McCallister, of Ohio, as president of their association for 1973-74.

James M. Mayer brought greetings to the full convention on behalf of the National Association of Concerned Veterans, basically a group of Vietnam veterans who originally formed

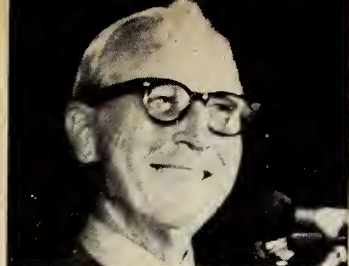
while in college under the name Nat'l Association of Collegiate Veterans. The Legion and the NACV have worked closely together, especially on efforts to improve federal educational benefits for Vietnam vets. Perhaps most NACV members are Legion members too.

Legion International Amity Awards for 1973 went to T. Y. Chao, of Taiwan, chairman of the Vocational As-



Iowans march in Legion parade carrying the tall cornstalks for which their state is famous.





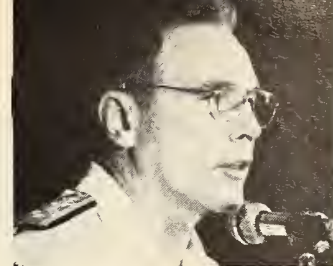
Honorable John A. Burns,
Governor of Hawaii.



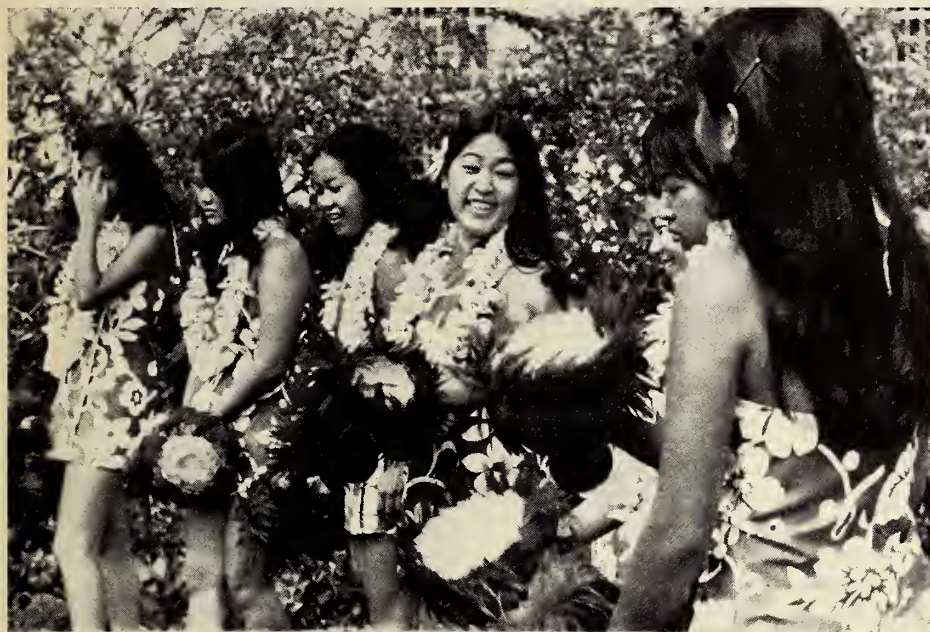
T. Y. Chao, chmn of Repub-
lic of China's equivalent of
our Veterans Administration.



Honorable Frank F. Fasi,
Mayor of Honolulu.



Admiral Noel Gayler, U.S.
Cmdr-in-Chief, Pacific.



A group of girls from an Oahu school goggle at Iowa's corn.



Cameras abounded among parade viewers.

sistance Commission for Retired Servicemen in the Republic of China, as well as to Victor C. J. Chai, of the same commission.

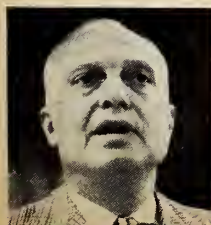
A Legion medallion was awarded the city of Chicago, last year's convention city. Past Nat'l Cmdr John Geiger presented it, and Harold Cummins, who was president of the Chicago Convention Corporation, received it on behalf of Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley.

There was hardly a thing to do in Hawaii that Legionnaires weren't doing. They took tours and they rented cars and drove all over Oahu. In lesser numbers they toured and drove around the islands of Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. They went to the Polynesian Village, far up the coast from Honolulu; they visited Pearl Harbor,



Parades and kids go together.

the marine show at Sealife Park and the Dole pineapple works. They took sunset sails in catamarans, and long drives on Hawaii's spectacular coastlines and up her stunning mountains. They bought no end of colorful clothing, souvenirs, seashell leis, oriental jewelry and heavens knows what else from the tempting shops all over Honolulu. They carried home all the pineapples they could carry, and cynics who said they could buy pineapples back home lost. The handcarried pineapples from Hawaii were far more delicious than any store pineapples on the mainland. Some Legionnaires who were busy most of the day with convention business were swimming in Waikiki's surf at 6 a.m., day after day. If they couldn't visit the other



islands, their families did while Pop was attending meetings. A week before the convention officially opened a Legion party from South Carolina and Georgia was encountered by reporters for this space at an inn 3,000 feet up on Haleakala mountain on Maui. They'd been to Kauai and were headed for a look at the Big Island.

It was the most informal convention ever. Aloha shirts and slacks were the style for men, and their womenfolk dressed as lightly, some in muumuus, some not. They even shucked formality to the extent of shirtsleeving it to many an affair they'd have gone to formal anywhere else. Even then, many commented that though they'd packed their bags lightly they'd still brought too much clothing from the mainland.

By the hundreds, the conventioners made pilgrimages to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu's Punchbowl crater, where lies many a serviceman killed in war in the Pacific. Indiana Legionnaires paid an official visit to Ernie Pyle's grave there, and announced at the site that they were going to launch a statewide drive in Indiana to raise



Arkansas Legionnaires enjoy Waikiki lunch and fashion show.

Aug. 25. It noted that in 55 years the Legion had only left the mainland once before. In an editorial it said: "... Unfortunately the Legion will probably not come back to Hawaii for another convention for many years. When they do come back, both the Legion and Hawaii will have changed, each in the same way, slowly, reluctantly, cherishing old uniforms and old values but giving way gradually to new ideas born out of tomorrow's storms and tides. So it is good that Hawaii and The American Legion could exchange alohas, for these two will not meet again."

IDENTIFICATION OF SMALL PHOTOS

Here is a brief identification of small photos that appear on the borders of many of these pages, in each case left to right.

Pages 22-23: 1. Mr. & Mrs. John Quinn, Calif. He was National Commander just 50 years ago, in 1923-24, and is the senior living Past National Commander. 2. Maryland Adjutant Dan Burkhardt, dressed in approved Hawaiian style, on convention floor. 3. Scene at party hosted by the Louisiana Legion at the Fort DeRussy officers' club in Waikiki. 4. Alumni of American Legion College, Class of 1954 (and some earlier) breakfast together. 5. Minnesota unit in parade. 6. A New York group sees the sights in Maui's Iao Valley. 7. Legionnaires bedecked with leis on arrival at Honolulu Nat'l Airport.

Pages 24-25: 1. Tired Legionnaire rests at end of day on Waikiki Beach. 2. Part of Wisconsin musical group in parade. 3. New Hampshire unit in parade. 4. One of many Hawaiian signs bidding Legion aloha. 5. Local youngsters enjoy the parade. 6. Part of Hawaiian Nat'l Guard band in parade. The Hawaiian Guard is based in the crater in Diamond Head. 7. Hawaiian girl chorus joins in Legion Patriotic and Memorial Service in Long House. 8. Past Nat'l Cmdr James F. O'Neil, right, dines with old friends Dan Liu and Mrs. Liu (center). Liu, as Honolulu police chief, escorted O'Neil on his official visit to Hawaii as Legion Commander in 1948. At left, present Honolulu police chief Francis Keala and Mrs. Keala.

Page 26: Five youths who were special guests of the convention: 1. Gilbert Baez (Pa.) representing the Boys' Clubs of America. 2. Michael Murphy (Mo.) American Legion base-

ball player of the year. 3. Aldine Canha (Hawaii) v.p. of 1972 Girls' Nation. 4. Carl Wilkinson (Fla.) representing Boy Scouts of America. 5. Thomas Martin (S.C.), president, 1973 Boys' Nation.

Page 27: 1. Bumper sticker announcing 1973-74 Legion theme, Be Counted Again. 2. View across the great valley of the island of Maui.

Pages 28-29: 1. Nels Soderholm, representing Veterans of WW1. 2. Nat'l Adjutant William F. Hauck gets the convention under way. 3. Swimming pool at Del Webb's new hotel complex on the northeast corner of Oahu. 4. Frank H. Farley, Dominion president, Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada. 5. Chmn of the American Legion Magazine Commission Ben Truskoski (Conn.) reports to Nat'l Executive Committee. 6. Frank Goffio, executive director of CARE, Inc. 7. J. Irwin (Ill.) reports to Nat'l Executive Committee as vice-chairman of the Legion Americanism Commission. 8. Tom Mitchell (Calif.) takes floor of convention on behalf of an amendment to the Economic report. 9. Oscar Wenstrand (Iowa), new president of the Society of American Legion Founders. 10. Past Nat'l Cmdr Preston Moore (Okla.) at Nat'l Executive Committee meeting eulogizes the late Thomas W. Miller (Nev.) who secured Legion's charter from Congress in 1919.

Page 30: 1. Delegate Carl Johnson, Calif., takes the floor to oppose successfully resolution approving flight pay for non-flying AF pilots. 2. Cmdr Matthews gives certificate of appreciation to outgoing Nat'l Chaplain Rev. L. P. Fitzpatrick of Iowa (left). 3. Charles L. Gould (right) of the San Francisco Examiner, awards Hearst Americanism Trophy to the Legion Department of Vermont. 4. Russell W. Ackerman (right) gets the Legion's Employer of the Year Award for Hiring Veterans, on behalf of the General Cable Corp., Elkton, Md. 5. Robert G. Smellie, Dominion President, Royal Canadian Legion.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Two candidates for National Commander were nominated to lead the Legion during 1973-74—both Past National Vice Commanders of the Legion, and both well-known and well-liked in the Legion. Jack Dyke, of Maryland, nominated Maryland's Robert E.L. Eaton, and Eaton plainly had enough support to win. But Sen. Barry Goldwater took the rostrum to nominate his fellow Arizonan, Chinese-born Soleng Tom. Tom's supporters treated the convention to a delightful interlude when they offered



Alaska Legion hosts Alaskan seafood party.

funds to restore the Pyle home in Dana, Ind. Indiana Department Commander Gaylord Sheline made the announcement as he placed a wreath on Pyle's grave, which was moved some years ago from the island of Ie Shima in the Ryukyus where the famous war correspondent was killed in WW2.

Honolulu welcomed the Legion. The parade was not the biggest Legion parade ever but it was Honolulu's biggest, while the convention itself was the largest ever held all at once in Hawaii. The Honolulu Star Bulletin bid the Legion a parting aloha as the convention decamped on

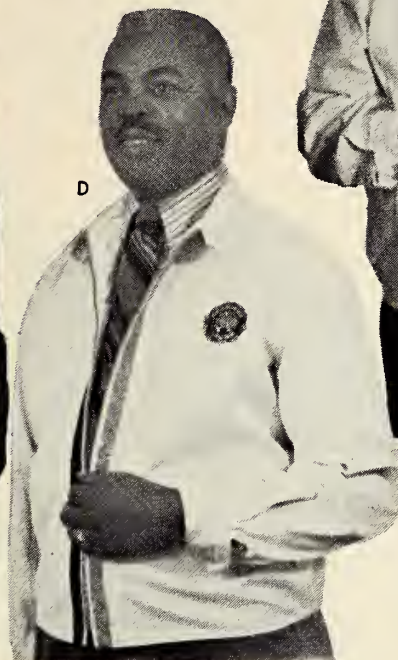


JACKETS & SWEATERS

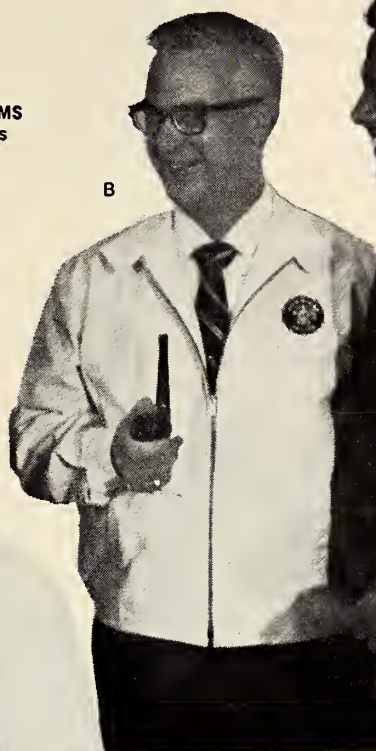
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C MELTON WOOL JACKET. Heavy 24-ounce blue Melton wool with knit sleeve and neck trim, dry-cleanable.
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D RALLY JACKET. Oyster Parka Poplin, water repellent "Wash N' Wear". Legion Blue and Gold Rally stripes with full front zipper. Two-button standup collar.
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SIZE INFORMATION ADULT

(34-36—small; 38-40—medium;
42-44—large; 46-48—extra large).

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the traditional hoopla in support of a nomination in the form of a Chinese Dragon Dance up and down the aisles, with two authentic dancing dragons. When it became obvious in the nominating rollcall that Eaton had the majority support, Soleng Tom took the rostrum. After a gracious and sentimental speech recounting his life as a transplanted Chinese who had served America in war and prospered here, he moved that Eaton be unanimously elected. It was so ordered, and National Adjutant William F. Hauck cast one vote for the entire convention electing Eaton—whose biography appears in this issue, starting on page 18.

Other new National Officers elected



Sen. Barry Goldwater, left, nominated his fellow Arizonan, Soleng Tom, right.



Dragon dance whooped it up for Soleng Tom.



Delegates marching in support of Robert Eaton.

to serve with Commander Eaton for the 1973-74 American Legion year are: National Vice Commanders John N. Roberto, Norwalk, Conn.; Gilbert E. Sheeks, Mitchell, Ind.; Merrick N. Swords, Jr., New Orleans, La.; N.E. Brown, Columbia, S.C.; and Frank C. Brooks, Bellingham, Wash.

Rev. Jerome Fortenberry, C.M., Perryville, Mo., was elected National Chaplain.

At the conclusion of the convention, Past National Commander Paul Griffith, (Pa.) presented incoming Commander Eaton with his colors.

(More convention news on P. 34)



Jack Dyke nominates Bob Eaton.



Eaton acknowledges his election.



The new national officers of The American Legion for 1973-74. Vice Cmdrs Swords, Sheeks, Brooks; Cmdr Eaton; Vice Cmdrs Roberto, Brown; Chaplain Fortenberry.

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SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

ELEVEN convention committees met in advance of the full business meetings and recommended action on all resolutions offered to the Convention. With three exceptions, the committees' recommendations were adopted by the full Convention. Two resolutions recommended for adoption were defeated and one resolution was approved as amended.

The committees considered 456 resolutions. The sense of 172 of them was rewritten into 30 resolutions that were adopted along with 84 that were not consolidated. Another 83 were referred for more study, 75 were rejected and 42 were received and recorded. A "received and recorded" resolution is one whose sense is approved, but whose passage is not necessary for one reason or another (existing policy, already implemented, no longer needed, etc.).

Following is a digest of all adopted resolutions. The digest is a guide to the sense of the resolutions and should not be construed as represent-

ing their exact terms. Legionnaires interested in the full text of a resolution for some particular reason may ask for it (by number and heading that appears below) from: Archives, American Legion National Hq., P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

1. Amends Legion Constitution to require transmittal of annual dues to national treasurer within 30 days of receipt by Departments (states).

INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MEMBERSHIP

75. Cautions against solicitation of funds for Post activities by non-Legion members or organizations.

197. Commends the USO.

378. Commends city of Keokuk, Iowa, in its efforts to acquire USS *The Sullivan* for use as museum and shrine.

435. Expresses appreciation to state and city officials and all others who contributed to success of convention in Hawaii.

440. Supports Legion 1974 "Be Counted Again" program and urges implementing certain steps to assure its success.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

235. Supports programs of health care for children and youth and adequate funding of these programs.

441. Urges establishment and maintenance of adequate school nutrition programs.

442. Seeks law to strengthen interstate reporting and services for runaway children.

443. Seeks law establishing a National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect.

FINANCE

(Unnumbered). Establishes national per capita dues for 1974 at \$2.50 (no change).

FOREIGN RELATIONS

23. Urges continuance of U.S. policy of friendship and cooperation with Greece.

24. Seeks greater military and financial participation in NATO by other members and no reduction

in troop strength without balanced reduction by Warsaw Pact nations.

25. Restates opposition to new treaties with Panama that would reduce our control over the Zone; opposes construction of sea-level canal; supports Third Locks-Terminal Lakes plan.

26. Opposes any federal action boycotting importation of Rhodesian chrome.

65. Opposes any federal or private economic support to North Vietnam.

144. Opposes passage of Atlantic Union Bill, which would place the U.S. under strong European influences.



At Past Commanders luncheon former U. S. Attorney General Richard Kleindienst gets "Good Guy" award (above, right) presented by C. D. DeLoach (D.C.). And the Past Cmdrs. cited N. Y. Adj. Maurice Stember as their "Man of the Year" (below, left). Churchill Williams (Iowa) makes the presentation.



145. Seeks international agreement on a uniform definition of the world's territorial fishing waters.

201. Conveys thanks and support to Nat'l Cmdr. Matthews for his mission to eastern Europe.

206. Condemns nations harboring terrorists and urges U.S. to use all influence to eliminate this danger.

239. Urges U.S. pressure on Russia and China to convince North Vietnam and Viet Cong to carry out agreement regarding American MIAs.

349. Opposes any form of world government.

350. Supports continued U.S. membership in the UN, provided certain basic changes are effected in 1973.

402. Supports U.S. aid only to those countries meeting certain considerations or if such aid be deemed in the national interest.

LEGISLATION AND RULES

No resolutions adopted, but many resolutions requiring legislation were adopted under other committee reports.

ECONOMIC

12. Seeks veterans preference requirements on jobs and job training opportunities financed by manpower revenue sharing funds.

16. Endorses an annual promotion of employment for older workers.

111. Asks a study of the VA home loan program to aid in improvements in assisting all veterans.

172. Supports national, state and local "Jobs for Veterans" program.

238. Supports the U.S. Savings Bonds program.

242. Urges legislation to remove restrictions on VA loans for purchase of condominiums.

358. Seeks increased federal and state veterans employment services to disabled and older veterans.

412. Urges maximum implementation of the Veterans Employment and Readjustment Act of 1972.

413. Opposes U.S. installations circumventing veterans preference by contracting out certain services.

447. Supports a White House conference on the handicapped and Legion participation in it.

448. Commends the U.S. Civil Service Commission for promoting employment for veterans.

449. Supports Office of Veterans Reemployment Rights and urges adequate personnel to provide effective service.

450. Supports legislation to remove statute of limi-

(Continued on page 36)

Seen here are the chairmen of the convention committees that screened all resolutions.



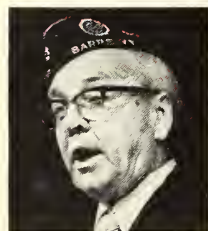
AMERICANISM
Daniel O'Connor
New York



CHILDREN & YOUTH
Earl Franklin, Jr.
Colorado



CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
Alfonse Wells
Illinois



ECONOMIC
Clarence Campbell
Vermont



FINANCE
Churchill Williams
Iowa



FOREIGN RELATIONS
Dr. Robert Foster
Missouri



INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Donald Smith
Michigan



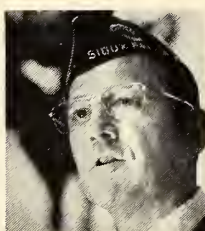
LEGISLATION
Clarence Horton
Alabama



MEMBERSHIP
Edward Schalk
Illinois



NATIONAL SECURITY
Emmett Lenihan
Washington



VETS AFFAIRS, REHABILITATION
William Lenker
South Dakota

You can't be turned down for this Insurance if you're 55 to 87!



Here is a life insurance plan that can be yours for the asking if you inquire before October 31, 1973. No ifs, ands, or buts! Not only is no physical examination required, but the policy is actually issued to you without a single health question!

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... was the first individual life insurance program that guaranteed acceptance to everyone who qualified by age. This program leading to permanent life insurance is guaranteed to every man and woman between 55 and 87—regardless of any other insurance carried.

This protection is recommended to their members by two of America's highly respected national nonprofit organizations for the mature: The National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) and The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). This plan is underwritten by Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, specialists in serving the specific needs of America's older population.

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The goal was a life insurance program we could make available to all mature people—a program whose cost would be reasonable and whose benefits would be worthwhile. With LIFE PLAN 55 PLUS the Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company has succeeded. This plan is possible only because of the preliminary benefit period which is two years if you are 65 or over and three years if you are under 65. During this preliminary benefit period full benefits are paid for accidental death and should death be of natural causes, every penny of premium paid by you will be returned to your beneficiary—plus 5% interest!

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No matter what your age, your sex, or the condition of your health, you pay just \$6.95 a month. The amount of coverage you receive is based on your sex and age. However, once you are insured the amount of your insurance will never go down, and your payments will never go up!

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To obtain full information on LIFE PLAN 55 PLUS in time to take advantage of this opportunity to become insured, please mail the coupon before October 31, 1973. After this date and between guaranteed acceptance enrollment periods . . . you will be required to answer several important health questions in order to obtain this protection.

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- * You know that this policy has been recommended to their members by both the National Retired Teachers Association and the American Association of Retired Persons!

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I understand that I will not be obligated in any way.

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(Please print)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

*Service Mark of Colonial Penn Life Insurance Co.



The annual States Dinner of The American Legion Auxiliary

tations for veterans reemployment rights cases.

451. Seeks higher grade level for ass't veterans employment representatives in areas where only one position is authorized.

NATIONAL SECURITY

28. Urges full funding for the development and deployment of the TRIDENT (ballistic missile subs) system.

29. Urges Congress and the President to maximize research and development to maintain the most modern military force our technology can provide.

40. Seeks restoration of respect for law and order and opposes any legislation to further handicap police.

41. Opposes general amnesty for draft evaders or deserters, and supports a review of each specific case.

43. Seeks Defense Dep't approval of commissary and exchange privileges for minor dependent orphans of deceased veterans.

275. Urges support and promotion of the TRIAD National Defense concept and rapid development of the B-1 bomber.

276. Urges immediate implementation of the Total Force Concept to provide modern aircraft to regular and reserve forces.

277. Supports the Air Force's advanced airborne command post program.

278. Urge federal support for the Airborne Warning and Control System program.

279. Urges full government support for research and development and modernization of the Minuteman Missile force.

281. Urges greater utilization of U.S.-flag merchant vessels through public support and congressional action.

320. Urges congressional support of local, state and national civil defense programs.

321. Urges congressional action to maintain authorized strengths for National Guard and Reserve components.

371. Seeks to amend law to provide beneficiary benefits from the survivor annuity program and dependency and indemnity compensation concurrently.

372. Seeks immediate payment of survivor benefits for military personnel in retirement.

377. Seeks to amend Reserve Retirement Law to entitle dependents to residual benefits regardless of age of deceased retired reservist at time of death.

387. Seeks legislation to punish individuals not in service who wear any part of a military uniform, except for ceremonial occasions.

395. Supports the Emergency Medical Service Act to allow merchant seamen use of public service hospitals.

404. Opposes enlisting of persons of limited education or ability into Reserve components.

405. Urges legislation to equalize re-enlistment pay for Reserve components.

406. Supports legislation to permit early retirement of Reserve members with retirement pay reduced.

407. Seeks to amend law to provide benefits to dependents of Reserve members serving 20 years who die before age 60.

439. Commends USAF for meeting its 1973 recruiting objectives.

444. Urges Congress to reestablish the SST program.

446. Seeks to encourage greater utilization of U.S.-flag merchant vessels.

453. Urges the necessary funding to maintain a modern, complete and powerful U.S. Navy and Marine Corps.

AMERICANISM

11. Denounces certain individuals for scurrilous attacks on U.S. POWs.

52. Urges restoration of traditional patriotic holiday dates.

109. Supports Constitution amendment to permit voluntary prayer in public buildings.

138. Endorses scouting program for physically and mentally handicapped youth.

139. Seeks law to permit Filipino wartime veterans and families to emigrate to the U.S.

170. Supports legislation to restrict travel of certain individuals to enemy countries during time of armed conflict.

436. Reaffirms support of the FBI.

452. Supports enactment of law establishing a Federal Employees Loyalty-Security program.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

44. Urges priority for VA budget needs and seeks law that Congress must be notified when appropriated funds are impounded.

50. Opposes proposed closing of U.S. Public Health hospitals.

59. Seeks compensation for survivors of vets who die from natural causes after a service-connected disability had been rated total and permanent for 10 years.

97. Seeks to amend law to provide that veterans gov't insurance shall not be subject to the imposition of federal estate tax.

98. Seeks legislation providing group health and maternity care insurance for veterans.

99. Seeks law to provide family-plan medical and hospital insurance for certain vets with service-connected disabilities.

119. Supports legislation to reopen for one year the right of certain vets to apply for NSLI.

132. Supports legislation to improve the education and training provisions for Vietnam vets.

149. Urges VA Administrator to substantially increase the number of beds allocated to nursing home care.

150. Seeks legislation to extend community nursing home care at VA expense.

191. Urges VA alcohol and drug treatment, rehab and other assistance for vets discharged under other than honorable conditions.

192. Seeks legislation to provide mortgage life insurance for vets unable to acquire commercial life insurance because of service-connected disabilities.

193. Seeks law to allow VA doctors and dentists with 20 or more years of service to include time spent earning a degree for retirement benefits purposes.

214. Sponsors legislation to improve death and disability benefits for wartime vets and dependents.

292. Seeks American Legion efforts to assure that the VA continue as sole agency of veterans programs.

303. Urges Congress to correct, update and publish the Congressional Medal of Honor Roll.

306. Seeks to rename the VA hospital at Columbia, Mo., the "Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital."

307. Supports law providing funds for construction of memorial chapel at the National Cemetery, Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

312. Seeks law providing commissary and exchange privileges for widows of vets who die of service-connected disease or injury after separation from active duty.

316. Seeks legislation enabling VA Administrator to authorize direct admission to institutions for nursing home care at U.S. expense.

335. Supports legislation limiting the VA's authority to change the schedule for ratings of disability.

336. Supports legislation to restrict the closing of VA facilities.

361. Seeks legislation increasing monthly rates of disability compensation.

430. Seeks legislation to provide autos and adaptive equipment for disabled WWI vets.

437. Urges Treasury authorization to vets service organizations and others to publish names of certain holders of undelivered savings bonds.

438. Seeks expansion of national cemeteries and establishment of new ones and calls for modification of restrictive law governing burials at Arlington.



Outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Joe Matthews gets his Past Commander's cap and Legion colors from Past Nat'l Cmdr William Galbraith (Nebr.) as Mrs. Matthews looks on.

66. Seeks Presidential consideration of executive clemency for Lt. William L. Calley, Jr.

90. Seeks action to assure adequate fuel supply for the nation's defenses.

91. Requests the President and Congress to assure that religious services continue to be available to the Armed Forces.

147. Restates opposition to Police Practices Committees or Police Review Boards.

167. Opposes parity in national defense and seeks sufficient funds to maintain our position as the world's leading military power.

176. Urges U.S.-labor/management cooperation in implementing Merchant Marine Act of 1970.

177. Urges all Legion dep'ts to organize a Merchant Marine Committee or Commission.

183. Opposes cutbacks in service at general military hospitals.

189. Supports legislation to equalize military retired pay currently in effect for active duty personnel.

210. Supports the ROTC and recommends widening of university and college involvement in the program.

223. Supports a national disaster preparedness program but seeks to amend the present concept.

224. Seeks immediate issuance of permit to construct the Trans-Alaska pipeline.

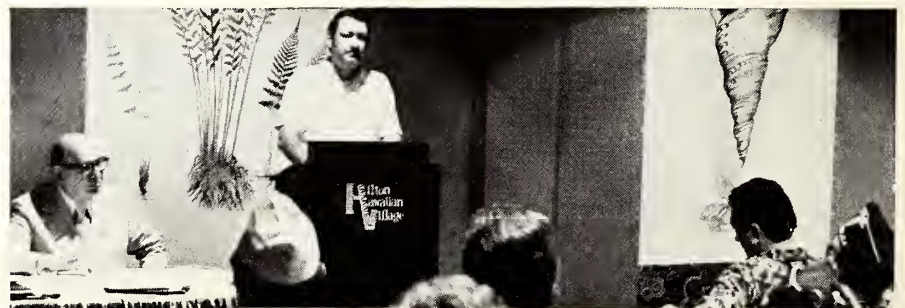
240. Urges legislation or necessary action to provide prompt funding for the Selective Service System.

270. Supports the President's proposal to review our federal criminal code.

273. Urges continued federal support for the development and procurement of the A-10 aircraft.

274. Seeks continuing support for procurement of the F-15 aircraft.

Convention photos and text by R. B. Pitkin, Al Marshall, John Andreola, James Swartz, Roy Miller, Walter Boll.



The Legion Spirit of '76 committee hears Frank Naylor (Kans.) outline plans for a three-week combined Boys' Nation-Girls' Nation during America's 200th year.

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"After a friend of ours told us about AARP, I said to my wife, 'Irma, everybody's having fun but us.' So I clipped out a coupon just like the one on this page. And got our AARP memberships. I wish we had done it 5 years earlier."

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Primarily it gives you the opportunity for a new kind of life. A way to explore new interests. To save money on medicines, travel, auto and health insurance. To meet new people. But, most of all, it's a way to maintain your individuality, and your dignity.

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To become enrolled in AARP all you have to do is clip and mail this coupon. Your membership costs you \$2 a year. That's it.

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Well, there's AARP's travel service. There's information about a recommended Life Insurance Plan and an *Auto Insurance Plan designed for mature persons. A Group Health Insurance Plan to help supplement Medicare. There's a home-delivery pharmacy service, to provide prescriptions and over-the-counter medications and supplies at

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Irma and Peter McNulty

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One membership entitles both member and spouse to all AARP benefits and privileges.
(Only one member may vote.)

Puerto Rico Baseball Team Wins Legion World Series

A high-scoring, teen-age baseball team sponsored by Monte Carlos Post 146 of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico (35 runs in four games) swept undefeated through The American Legion World Series by defeating Memphis, Tenn., Post 1, 10-6 in 10 innings on Sept. 3 at Bengal Field, Lewiston, Idaho. This was the second year in a row that Memphis, Region 4 winner, was a World Series runner-up. The Puerto Rican team was Region 3 winner.

Other Regional champs: Region 1, Hayes-Velhage Post 1, W. Hartford, Conn.; Region 2, James Waters-West Enders Post 361, Richmond, Va.; Region 5, Robert E. Bentley Post 50, Cincinnati, Ohio; Region 6, Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435, Richfield, Minn.; Region 7, Ninety-First Division Post 52, Portland, Ore.; Region 8, San Fernando Post 176, San Fernando, Cal.

Legion Baseball Player of the Year Award went to Tucker Ashford, Memphis shortstop, who also won the Adirondack Big Stick Award with 29 total bases.

Winner of the 1973 Legion batting title and the Hillerich & Bradsby Louisville Slugger Trophy is Carlos

Rodriguez of Puerto Rico with a .435 Series average.

The James F. Daniel, Jr., Memorial Sportsmanship Award went to Puerto Rico catcher Jose Lugo.

Guillermo Bonilla of Puerto Rico took the "Click" Cowger RBI Award with 13 rbi's.

The teams which took part in the finals (attendance, 23,677), sponsored by Lewis-Clark Post 13, were the eight survivors among the following winners of Legion Dep't competition:

Alabama Post 46, Alabama City Alaska Post 11, Fairbanks. Arizona Post 1, Phoenix. Arkansas Post 32, Pine Bluff. California Post 176, San Fernando. Colorado Post 203, Pueblo. Connecticut Post 90, W. Hartford. Delaware Post 30, New Castle. Florida Post 39, Vero Beach. Georgia Post 47, Calhoun. Honolulu, Hawaii (outside sponsor). Idaho Post 4, Pocatello. Illinois Post 439, Highland. Indiana Post 357, South Bend. Iowa Post 2, Council Bluffs. Kansas Post 10, Winfield. Kentucky Post 23, Bowling Green. Louisiana Post 285, New Orleans. Maine Post 129, Woodfords. Maryland Post 108, Cheverly. Pittsfield, Mass., (outside sponsor). Michigan Post 172, Rochester. Minnesota Post 435, Richfield. Mississippi Post 1, Jackson. Missouri Post 63, Cape Girardeau. Montana Post 3, Great Falls. Nebraska Post 112, Omaha. Nevada Post 8, Las Vegas. New Hampshire Post 2, Manchester. New Jersey Post 314, Trenton. New Mexico Post 49, Albuquerque. New York Post 39, Amsterdam. North Carolina Post 58, Rocky Mount. North Dakota Post 37, Williston. Ohio Post 50, Cincinnati. Oklahoma Post 16, Shawnee. Oregon Post 52, Portland. Panama C. Z. Post 1, Balboa. Pennsylvania Post 834, Levittown. Puerto Rico Post 146, Rio Piedras. Rhode Island Post 20, Cranston. South Carolina Post 26, Aiken. South Dakota Post 22, Rapid City. Tennessee Post 1, Memphis. Texas Post 490, Houston. Utah Post 2, Salt Lake City. Virginia Post 361, Richmond. Vermont Post 13, Bennington. Washington Post 36, Yakima. W. Virginia Post 2, Morgantown. Wisconsin Post 48, Beloit. Wyoming Post 7, Sheridan.

A GUIDE TO U.S. TALKS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

(Continued from page 12)

talk is chiefly about dealing with the flow of goods among nations and the dismantling of barriers that impede the flow.

The initial, real sparring is set for September, in Tokyo, when the GATT nations' trade ministers meet. The second round is planned for next January in Geneva. After that, trade talks at various levels will probably go on until 1975.

THE U.S. has been bargaining for very specific concessions for a long time, though swift moving events have changed part of the picture. Thus, we were howling about fences against our farm products erected by the Common Market. But in the last six months our own food staples suffered a supply shortage. We have actually put an embargo on exporting soybeans, which Europeans and Japanese feed their cattle. They are outraged. Said one nameless foreign official, "It was bad enough when your lousy dollars couldn't be freely converted to gold. Now we can't even cash them in for soybeans!"

But other barriers against us remain, some, we say, clearly in violation of past GATT agreements. We even propose to negotiate for some compensation for trade we lost when the European Common Market recently grew from six to nine nations and froze us out of some business.

In the broader view, Mr. Nixon wants more sharing of burdens we carried alone for a long time. Any concessions that Europe may demand from us may have a price tag—that Europe pay for more of its defense.

In general, we will propose *mutual* sacrifice henceforth when adjustments have to be made, with everybody in the act when it comes to giving up as well as gaining.

If any nation—say Japan—accumulates reserves higher than X, it would be obliged—under Mr. Nixon's probable proposals—to reduce its surplus by buying more goods from other countries, increasing its foreign investments and its aid to developing nations. If everyone assumes these burdens and obligations, he proposes, then all the Western nations can keep their economies in balance.

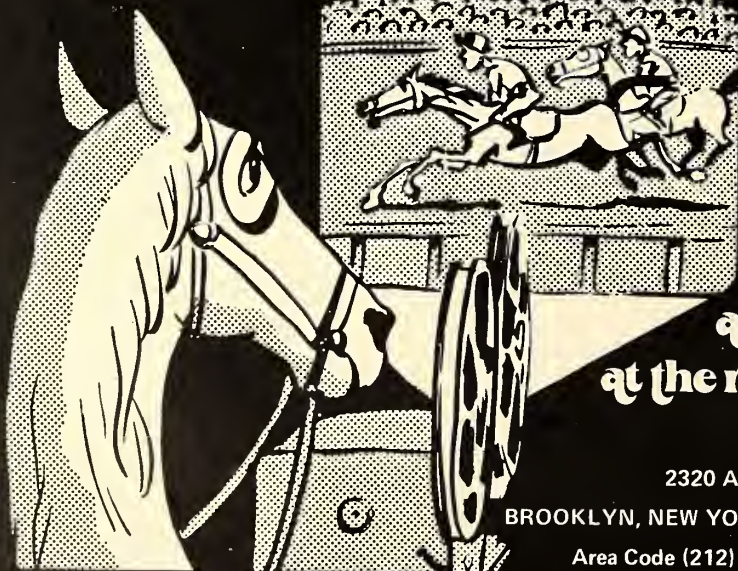
Of course, he would "only" be asking them to assume responsibilities that we have carried more than anyone else—and with the seemingly very fair proposition that they should do it automatically in relation to their current wealth at any particular time.

(Continued on page 40)

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- Kennedy was elected in 1960
- Both Presidents were slain on a Friday
- There are seven letters in each name
- Lincoln's secretary Kennedy warned him not to go to the theatre
- Kennedy's secretary Lincoln warned him not to go to Dallas
- Both their successors were named Johnson
- Andrew Johnson born 1808
- Lyndon Johnson born 1908
- Booth shot Lincoln in a theatre and hid in a warehouse
- Oswald shot Kennedy from a warehouse and hid in a theatre

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- ☐ 25 coins for \$9.00. Add 60c for 25 coins or more.
- ☐ 100 coins for \$29.00. Add \$1.00 for 100 coins or more.

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A GUIDE TO U.S. TALKS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

(Continued from page 38)

However fair that seems, it will take a lot of haggling to get agreement on it. Some Europeans don't want it to be automatic, but to negotiate each instance when a nation's burdens ought to be increased in relation to its prosperity.

The French, in particular, are deeply suspicious of U.S. motives. They see it all as a plot to drive the value of the dollar down until it is so cheap that we can outsell France all over the place. They certainly exaggerate. We don't want the dollar any cheaper than it is now, though we are delighted to have tumbled it from its former fake value.

Obviously, the GATT talks will be no bed of roses for them, or for us. We will bring two clubs with which to get at least some of what we'll seek. One is our defense expenditures overseas. The other nations know that the President virtually has to fight for them in Congress to maintain them. Which makes it hard for them to say no to him.

The other is the fact that we are still the strongest economic nation in the world in spite of our current difficulties.

But in order to do his strongest possible bargaining, Mr. Nixon must get a new trade bill through Congress with which to negotiate. He wants broad authority to raise and lower

tariffs as changing international trade conditions dictate. Even some of his severest critics think he should have that power. But the Watergate mess has continued to undermine his influence in Congress, while those of our industries that want strong protective tariffs don't want *any* President to have a free hand with them.

THE OTHER countries will probably have the same sort of internal political problems that will put fetters on their own negotiating. So, in total, GATT looks like a real merry-go-round for a long time to come.

But what is at issue is no merry-go-round. The great residue of unspent dollars held by other countries is economic dynamite. Some way for them to get value for those dollars *slowly* must be worked out. More generally, it is in the common interest of us *all* to be strong economically, but it takes enormous patience and tact to deal with the tendency of the political and economic interests within each nation and each bloc to thrive at the expense of the others.

As GATT talks proceed, you can count on reading of a good deal of friction between us and our friends. On the hopeful side, the last time that we all wrote a new book on our trade it worked fairly well for almost a quarter of a century. **END.**

THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Continued from page 19)

Smith County, near Laurel, before the Civil War. Bob Eaton's father, Malcolm Eaton, went to Mississippi College in Jackson. He married Sallie Huff, member of another early Mississippi family that had settled in Jones County, and they were living in Hattiesburg when Bob Eaton was born on Dec. 22, 1909. They soon moved to a rural area south of Greenville, Miss., and operated a cotton farm that was neither impoverished nor prosperous.

Bob Eaton grew up as a "typical farm boy." It was a happy life, with hunting and fishing as well as farm work. There was no town at all short of Greenville. He went to Riverside Consolidated High School at Pettit. "All there was to Pettit was the school," he says, and "no reason" not to call it just Riverside or just Pettit.

He ranked high in high school, competed in oratorical competitions and had academic ambitions that were in for a rude awakening.

Graduating from Riverside regional at 16, in 1926, he enrolled in Ole Miss (the University of Mississippi) and

found that he was in for a terrible struggle. His high school background was weak, for all that he was high in his class. Freshman year at Ole Miss was almost over his head, especially in English and math.

"But the year at Ole Miss saved me," he says. "At some early date and for reasons I cannot now recall, I had wanted to go to West Point. At 16 I was too young, so I went to Ole Miss for a year. Without that year at college, I'd never have made it at the Point on my high school education. It was all right for farm boys, I suppose."

His chief personal memories of West Point are his struggles to keep up in his studies in competition with cadets whose public schooling had put them several rungs above him on the academic ladder.

A college classmate of his father, Will Whittington, was the Congressman from the Eatons' district in Mississippi. Rep. Whittington got Bob Eaton an appointment to West Point, starting in July 1927. His four years

(Continued on page 42)

195

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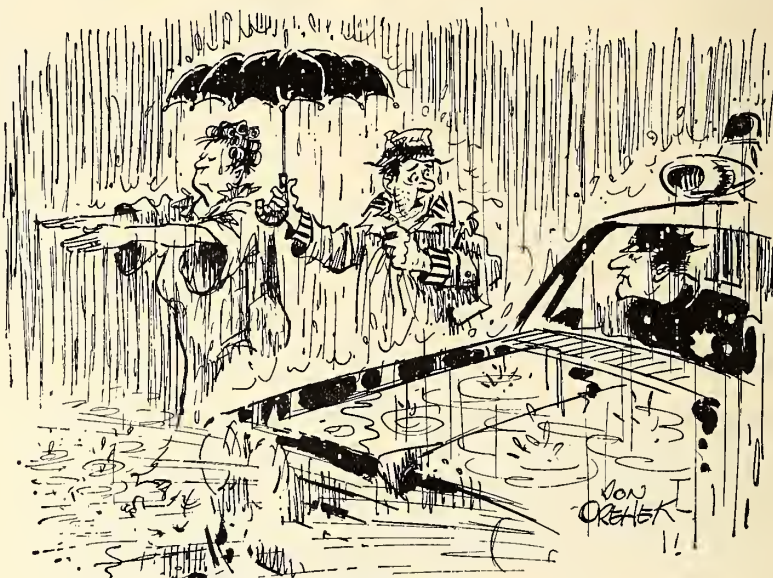
THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Continued from page 40)

at the U.S. Military Academy were dominated by his academic struggle.

To hear him tell it you'd think he just squeaked through at the bottom of the class. Actually, he beat out 101 others, finishing 196th in a class of 297. For two years he tried out for the lacrosse team. Having only made the B squad in that time, he dropped lacrosse. But he was the basketball manager in his senior year as well as

Scott Field, headquarters of the 7th Air Base Group. There he met Jo Kathryn Rhein, a member of an old Belleville family and a graduate of Washington University. They were married on Jan. 1, 1939. In 1941, Eaton was briefly the commanding officer of his Scott Field air base group, but the same year he became control officer of the 2nd U.S. Weather Region, comprising the northeast



"Last time she caught pneumonia."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

battalion sergeant major, which made him a big figure in cadet parade formations. Aside from that it was grind, grind, grind to keep his nose above water.

On graduation he was assigned to the infantry, but he put in a request for flight training. By October of 1932, at age 22, he had his pilot's wings—one of 43 to earn them in a pilot training class of 102. He was sent to Ford Island's Luke Field in Pearl Harbor. There he flew off of grass as a pilot and observer in 0-19s and served sundry collateral duties as supply officer, etc., until 1935.

He was transferred to Mitchell Field in New York in May 1935, where for a year he was operations officer of the 5th Bombardment Squadron, with the temporary rank of captain.

In July 1936, he started seven years as a weather officer for the Army Air Corps when he was sent to M.I.T. for a concentrated ten-week course in advanced mathematics, followed by nine months training in instruments and meteorology. From M.I.T. he went to Belleville, Ill., as weather officer at

quadrant of the nation. He operated out of Patterson Field in Ohio, and was by now a lieutenant colonel.

The same month he took the job, the Japanese raided Pearl Harbor, and flight weather forecasting was not the best place to be for ambitious Air Corps officers. If Eaton was locked in it for a little longer while his buddies were heading up flight groups, at least he rose to the top.

He continued to head up the 2nd Weather Region until Sept. 1942, when he took the ten-week command and general staff course at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. From December 1942 to April 1943, he was the head of the Weather Central Division at the Army Air Forces Hq in Washington, D.C.—and a little bit desperate to get a combat command as the war ground on.

Weather Central was involved in flight forecasting for military operations on a worldwide scale, and had the problem of making large numbers of flight forecasters from inexperienced wartime personnel.

Scientists like to predict the weather

(Continued on page 44)

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THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Continued from page 42)

er from an analysis of all the forces at work in all levels of the atmosphere. They don't know all the forces today, and back then they knew far fewer.

Standard weather maps, made from barometer and temperature readings showing the highs and lows, were the best the Army had to go by. At M.I.T., Eaton had learned that weather maps could be put to better use if only there were quick access to all continental weather patterns in the past, which nobody had. At Weather Central, all of the Weather Bureau maps and all the Signal Corps weather data—some going back as far as 100 years—were dug up. Eaton approached I.B.M. and asked if it could classify all past data and make any former weather patterns quickly available in a data processing setup. It could and did. Soon, Weather Central could press a button and see those five maps in the past that most closely resembled the day's map. A fairly reliable prediction could then be made for tomorrow, based on how the maps of the past had developed. It wasn't foolproof, but it was a sound basis of forecasting that could be learned fast by men with limited experience and little more current data than the barometric patterns and temperature gradients.

Forecasters who have worked in one locality for years do this by the seat-of-the-pants. They get to know the most likely development of the local weather from various high-low patterns. But Weather Central forecast the flying weather for the entire western hemisphere with a pretty good batting average—a far more complex problem.

EATON was happy to get out of his seven years in the weather business, for all its fascination, when, in April, 1943, he was offered command of the 451st Bomb Group, then being set up on a skeleton basis in Tennessee to fly B-24 Liberators. After training of the nucleus in Tennessee and Florida, the Group was built up to strength in Utah and then Nebraska and released for combat in November 1943. It flew to Algiers, then joined the 15th Air Force in Italy and started combat operations there in January 1944.

Eaton was commander of the 451st until October 1944, when he had flown the limit of 50 bombing missions (42 actual, eight of which were counted as two each when Italian-based planes bombed north of the Alps). Group commanders were not supposed to fly more than four missions

a month, but Eaton had a yen to join the B-29s in the Pacific. He got his 50 missions in ahead of schedule in hopes of getting a B-29 assignment.

The group's targets were scattered all over Nazi-land, from northern Italy and southern France to Munich, Regensburg, Vienna, Budapest and Ploesti. Of 21 U.S. high-level raids on the Ploesti oil complex in Romania, the 451st flew 19. It had 90 bombers at its peak and could put up to 40 in



"I haven't had a customer for two weeks . . . that's not so bad though, I haven't had any gas for two weeks anyway."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

the air at any one time.

By the time Eaton had completed his limit of flying missions in October, the 451st had won three Presidential Unit Citations. Eaton was not to be a B-29 commander. He was ordered first to London, then Paris, as deputy director of operations for the whole European strategic bombing show.

The round-the-clock bombing of German-held areas in Europe was conducted by the U.S. 8th Air Force in England and the U.S. 15th in Italy by daylight, and at night by the British Royal Air Force. Gen. Carl Spaatz headed the American air campaign. In command of the British operations was Air Marshal Sir Norman H. Bottomley.

By late 1944, the weekly operations were planned in Paris and London. They covered a heavily defended area roughly comparable to the United States from Maine to Omaha and south to Miami.

The total planning and assessment of operations and targets was a matter of such inconceivable complexity that when, in March 1944, General Spaatz started to set up a top-level assessment board within the air forces themselves, the project not only overflowed the air forces but ended up by reporting directly to the Allied governments.

Short of detailing what was in-

volved (which would fill books) it might suffice to note that this was the first international attempt to use strategic bombing as a major arm in the winning of a war. And though previous experience was lacking, it was on a scale that nobody had ever imagined. It embraced industrial, raw material, transportation and military targets against desperate opposition from France to Poland, from Italy to Belgium, from the Black Sea to the Adriatic, Mediterranean, North Sea and the Baltic.

Bob Eaton became number three in the operational planning. Overall commander of U.S. operations under Spaatz was the late Gen. Frederick Anderson. His operations director was Gen. A.R. Maxwell, and Eaton became Maxwell's deputy.

ONE DAY each week, at a meeting in London which included the operations officers of the British and two American air forces, the targets and missions for the next week were set up. Opinion was by no means unanimous. Each air force had its own pressures, desires and problems that were paramount in its own eyes, while the overall operational planners (Eaton, Maxwell and their British equivalents) were bound more to the grand strategic plan. Yet decisions could not be endlessly delayed while points were argued. In the end, if necessary, Maxwell or Eaton and their British counterparts would retire and firm up the final orders. They almost never had any difficulties working together. If they couldn't agree, they'd shoot their differences to Bottorley and Spaatz. There could be no delay.

Thus were the weekly plans drawn that saw the bombing of Hitler's empire rise to a mighty crescendo in the late winter of 1945. By mid-March, so many strategic targets had been eliminated that more and more of the bombers were being detached on tactical missions in support of the ground troops.

In one of the greatest tactical support missions ever carried out by strategic bombers, some 1,200 15th Air Force planes made a massive assault on German ground troops and artillery opposing our forces in front of Bologna, Italy.

On April 1, Bob Eaton was sent from Paris to Spaatz' hq in Rheims to help plan tactical missions that would speed the advance of the Allied armies. On April 7, the British air chief of staff, Sir Charles Portal, warned that any further strategic bombing of German cities would only make the problem of the occupying

(Continued on page 46)

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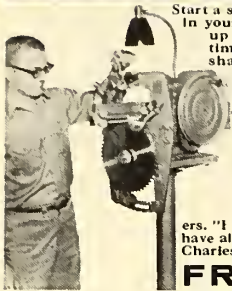
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THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Continued from page 45)

forces greater. On that day Portal called off any further general area strikes by British bombers.

On April 16, General Spaatz announced that the strategic air war in Europe was over, though it turned out that the armies still had three weeks of fighting ahead of them. There were no more strategic targets.

For what remained of the war, Spaatz said, the 8th and 15th Air Forces would collaborate with our regular tactical air arm, the 9th Air Force, in support of troop movements. In the tactical missions that Bob Eaton was planning, the planes went out to hit small targets or "anything that moved" in front of the advancing armies. The European war moved swiftly to a close. By the time of the surrender on May 7, the bombers were largely dropping supplies and carrying out liberated prisoners of war. Eaton's job in Europe was done, but there was new and different work in the United States.

Today, a generation has grown up which does not recall that up to the end of WW2 there was no Defense Department, and no U.S. Air Force.

The Army had its own agency—the War Department—with a cabinet Secretary of War. The Navy had its cabinet-rank Navy Department. They were separate entities, all the way up to the President.

What we call the Air Force today was the Army Air Corps before WW2, then the Army Air Forces.

It was in the cards by the end of WW2 that the Army and Navy should come under a single civilian officer, the Secretary of Defense. Meanwhile, the Army Air Forces had grown to such stature that they wanted to be separated from the Army and given equal status as a third military branch under the proposed Secretary of Defense.

Bob Eaton's operations boss, Gen. Frederick Anderson, picked a handful of his top officers to come to Washington immediately the war was over, to help hasten the unification of the armed forces under one government department, with an Air Force as one of three equal branches under it.

Among this small group was Eaton. Technically, General Anderson returned to Washington as head of Army Air Forces personnel, and Bob Eaton—still a colonel—was his executive officer. (No office existed for the specific job at hand.) To Eaton there soon fell a good deal of the representation in Congress in support of unification, and the responsibility to get support from veterans, farm,



"Mother, call our chauffeur, I'm running away."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

labor, church and business groups. In this capacity, Eaton was moved to the office of Army Air Forces Public Relations under Gen. Rosy O'Donnell, where he headed up a section called "Community Relations."

Of course, all that they worked for came to pass. The Congress created the Defense Department and a separate Air Force. Eaton personally wrote the plans for the Air Force Association. Today, he notes that "you might not remember the difficulty we had getting the Legion's strong support. It wasn't easy to get."

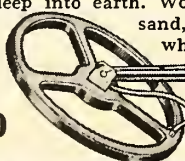
He got it. And the Legion got him, once he had worked closely enough with it to have a grasp of the Legion and its workings and objectives. Meanwhile, his work with Congress had been so effective that when the U.S. Air Force was set up, he became its first deputy director of legislative liaison in September 1947. A few years later he moved up from deputy to director.

There he remained until 1953, the day to day contact man between the Air Force and Congress. By then he had spent twice as long in Washington as an officer was supposed to, and had been promoted to brigadier and then major general.

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In September 1953, the Secretary of the Air Force decided that even though Eaton was "Bob" to virtually the entire Congress, there was a limit, and eight years was the limit. The possibly difficult job of getting Turks and Greeks to work together in NATO seemed a natural job for him. So he was named the first NATO air commander in Turkey, which encompassed setting up the NATO air forces there, and welding into it both the Turkish and Greek air commands.

According to Eaton there was nothing to it. "We got on famously," he says. "My chief of staff was a Turkish major general and my deputy director of operations was a Greek brigadier. Our job was not to command them in peacetime, but only in training for joint operations with NATO in the event of war."

Starting with 25 people, they set up a 300-man NATO headquarters, about half of them Americans, and conducted air exercises involving one Greek and three Turkish air forces, sometimes running joint maneuvers with the U.S. Sixth Fleet. The NATO headquarters Eaton organized at Izmir, Turkey, remains today the eastern Mediterranean tactical air command for NATO.

IN AUGUST 1955, Eaton was transferred to Michigan to head up the 10th U.S. Air Force. It then supervised the training of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve for 13 states. While Bob Eaton was there it was expanded to 18 states. The 10th had had an unsatisfactory fighter plane accident record of 55 accidents per 100,000 hours of flying time. The accident rate is a general reflection of the tightness of the entire operation, and under Eaton's command it was brought down to nine per 100,000 hours in the air. Shortly before he retired, he was brought back to Washington as Assistant Chief of Staff for Reserve Forces. In 1962 he retired, settled down in Maryland and started his own consulting and public relations firm in Washington.

His return to Washington and his retirement signaled a return to Legion activities in Maryland, in which he had rendered good service before being sent to Turkey and Michigan.

Eaton had joined Post 105 in Bethesda, Md., in Feb. 1946. It was then known as Bethesda-Chevy Chase Post, since renamed Fitzgerald-Cantrel Post. He regularly attended his Post meetings and was soon lending his considerable executive talents to the problems of the Post—and before long to the Maryland state Legion.

He has been elected a delegate to every Legion National Convention since 1948.

"I learned by working with it on unification of the Armed Forces that the Legion is a great stabilizing force in the United States," he said recently. "This is not readily apparent from its social organization. But if you have been exposed to the breadth and depth of its policy-making and programs and to its underlying philosophy—as I was in 1946 and 1947—you almost feel a compulsion, if you are a veteran, to contribute what you can to its entirely voluntary operation."

Six years after he joined, Mary-

landers asked him to run for state commander. As he was still an active duty major general, he requested Air Force permission. The answer was no to any position of political leadership in the Legion, but there was no objection to his holding Legion committee positions. Maryland promptly elected him its alternate on the Legion's National Executive Committee for 1952-54.

His assignments to Turkey and Michigan interrupted his Legion activities for five years, but on his return to Washington he picked up the threads again. At the 1961 National Convention in Denver he was

(Continued on page 48)

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THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Continued from page 47)

chairman of the convention finance committee and was its secretary at the next two conventions. He was a natural for both his state and national committees dealing with the military and national security. Maryland put him to work on its aeronautics, defense and military advisory committees, and he has served on the Legion's national security training committee. Because of his administrative talents, both his state and the national Legion have used him in positions having nothing to do with the military, including the organization of conventions and the guidance of financial policies.

ON HIS retirement from the Air Force, Legion political office was open to him. Maryland promptly ran him "up the ladder" of junior and senior state vice commandships and elected him state commander for 1965-66, then made him its National Executive Committeeman for two successive two-year terms, running from 1967 to 1970. It then nominated him for one of the Legion's five National Vice Commandships, to which he was elected at the 1970 national convention. There was only one higher office left. In 1971, the Maryland Legion pushed its favorite retired general and workhorse for the National Commandship, and on Aug. 23, 1973, he was it.

The Maryland American Legion is one of the strong Legion state organizations. It is bristling with active programs and hard workers and produces a remarkable output of energy and imagination. It is one of a small group of state Legion organizations that conduct international programs of their own. It has built a school in Mexico, and it has Mexican and Canadian youths as its guests at its Boys State. It has run goodwill programs of a substantial nature in the Philippines, Vietnam and in Europe. In Maryland it is a civic giant. Many state Legion organizations would be hard put to match its record of inventiveness in discovering new ground to plow in wholesome and helpful community, state and international projects on top of the cornucopia of standard Legion programs. This is all reflected in its membership growth, in which it is one of the national leaders.

Maryland is one of 20 Legion Departments whose all-time membership record does not date back to the great influx of WW2 veterans in 1946-47-48. Maryland surpassed its 1946

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record (38,737) in 1967, and by July of this year had set its seventh consecutive record. In the last 10½ years it has grown by 46.3%, from 35,286 (1963 year-end) to 51,634 by July 12, 1973.

The Department's modern resurgence coincides with Eaton's increased activity in it since his retirement from the Air Force. He is hardly personally responsible for it all, but Maryland Legionnaires point to certain "farsighted" things he did that were instrumental in their decade of sudden growth.

EATON has a calm, friendly, factual way about him. His speech is unhurried and to the point. His personal manner is so unprepossessing that it gives no hint of a man who has been thrust into positions of high responsibility, several of which were at the center of the stage of permanent landmarks in national history.

It is not in his nature to try to make a splash by putting on a front. This writer asked several Maryland Legionnaires how it happened that for more than 20 years they had been pushing a man who didn't seem to be pushing himself very hard.

Said one: "Bob has been a first-rate doer. Here's a busy and able man who has been pushing the Legion for two decades. We'd be fools not to push him. The more we gave him to do, the more he has done for us."

Said another: "I come from the western end of the state. I wasn't aware of him very much until he was state commander in 1965-66. Then all of a sudden things that were long overdue started to happen. In this air-conditioned age our Department staff had been suffering in the Baltimore summers without air conditioning. It was beastly to go there on business in the summer. All of a sudden Eaton had it air-conditioned. We'd needed a state Legion newspaper for years, but nobody before him could quite take the responsibility to authorize one and all the headaches that go with it. In January of his year as state commander the first issue of the Free State Warrior appeared. It is readable, interesting, informative—a top-notch organization publication. The communications it has provided with every member have been a big factor in the growth of our department. When you go on for years and see things that ought to be done suddenly happen, you sit up and say 'Hey, somebody's on the ball!' I've been an Eaton man ever since."

Said a third: "Bob Eaton accepted every job we ever gave him. He measured it, studied it, worked at it."

(Continued on page 50)

The Lazy Man's Way to Riches

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What's more, I'm going to ask you to send me 10 dollars for something that'll cost me no more than 50 cents. And I'll try to make it so irresistible that you'd be a darned fool not to do it.

After all, why should you care if I make \$9.50 profit if I can show you how to make a lot more?

What if I'm so sure that you will make money my Lazy Man's Way that I'll make you the world's most unusual guarantee?

And here it is: I won't even cash your check or money order for 31 days after I've sent you my material.

That'll give you plenty of time to get it, look it over, try it out.

If you don't agree that it's worth at least a hundred times what you invested, send it back. Your uncashed check or money order will be put in the return mail.

The only reason I won't send it to you and bill you or send it C.O.D. is because both these methods involve more time and money.

And I'm already going to give you the biggest bargain of your life.

Because I'm going to tell you what it took me 11 years to perfect: How to make money the Lazy Man's Way.

O.K.—now I have to brag a little. I don't mind it. And it's necessary—to prove that sending me the 10 dollars... which I'll keep "in escrow" until you're satisfied... is the smartest thing you ever did.

I live in a home that's worth \$100,000. I know it is, because I turned down an offer for that much. My mortgage is less than half that, and the only reason I haven't paid it off is because my Tax Accountant says I'd be an idiot.

My "office," about a mile and a half from my home, is right on the beach. My view is so breathtaking that most people comment that they don't see how I get any work done. But I do enough. About 6 hours a day, 8 or 9 months a year.

The rest of the time we spend at our mountain "cabin." I paid \$30,000 for it—cash.

I have 2 boats and a Cadillac. All paid for.

We have stocks, bonds, investments, cash in the bank. But the most important thing I have is priceless: time with my family.

And I'll show you just how I did it—the Lazy Man's Way—a secret that I've shared with just a few friends 'til now.

It doesn't require "education." I'm a high school graduate.

It doesn't require "capital." When I started out, I was so deep in debt that a lawyer friend advised bankruptcy as the only way out. He was wrong. We paid off our debts and, outside of the mortgage, don't owe a cent to any man. It doesn't require "luck." I've had

more than my share, but I'm not promising you that you'll make as much money as I have. And you may do better; I personally know one man who used these principles, worked hard, and made 11 million dollars in 8 years. But money isn't everything.

It doesn't require "talent." Just enough brains to know what to look for. And I'll tell you that.

It doesn't require "youth." One woman I worked with is over 70. She's travelled the world over, making all the money she needs, doing only what I taught her.

It doesn't require "experience." A widow in Chicago has been averaging \$25,000 a year for the past 5 years, using my methods.

What does it require? Belief. Enough to take a chance. Enough to absorb what I'll send you. Enough to put the principles into action. If you do just that—nothing more, nothing less—the results will be hard to believe. Remember—I guarantee it.

You don't have to give up your job. But you may soon be making so much money that you'll be able to. Once again—I guarantee it.

The wisest man I ever knew told me something I never forgot: "Most people are too busy earning a living to make any money."

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The problem of the borrower is particularly acute if he is looking for a mortgage. Mortgage money is becoming scarce, and when it is available the rate is bumping the ceiling—8% in many states—on top of which the lender often demands "points," adding around another ½% to the rate.

Some quick figuring will show you that if you're going to buy a house, whether new or old, via the mortgage route, **you could wind up paying considerably more in interest than the face of the mortgage.** For example, if you borrow \$20,000 for 30 years at 8%, your interest payments will be over \$30,000. Add closing costs to that, plus "points" (if any), and you can see what you're up against. **If, conversely, you are saving money, opportunities galore are opening up.**

On regular deposits, you can get 5.2% to 5.47% (when compounded daily). But the big yields come when you leave a minimum on deposit for a fixed period of time (90 days to four years). In that event, the yields will be in a range of 6% to about 9%. Of course, your money is tied up; but, then, that high interest also is guaranteed against a downturn in rates.

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Financial people often use a mathematical shortcut—called "the rule of 72"—to figure out the impact of interest rates.

Suppose you have an investment yielding a steady 8%. How long will it take you to double your money on a compound basis? Divide 8 into 72 and you get 9. That's the answer—9 years. Conversely, suppose you want to double your money in 10 years. How big an interest rate would that require? Again, divide 10 into 72. The rate (compounded) comes out to 7.2%.

Why is 72 always the magic number? Why not something else? The reason is that **an interest rate of 1% will double your money in 72 years.** Ergo, an 8% rate will take only one-ninth that time. Or, if you want to shorten the years from 72 to 10, you obviously have to increase the rate 7.2 times—from 1% to 7.2%.

★ ★ ★

What are the odds that your wife is working (outside the home, that is)? About 50-50.

The U.S. labor force now consists of nearly 40% women, which means that about half the married ones have jobs, and around 55% of the single ones. Economically, that's fine. It means more taxes for Uncle Sam and more income for families. Nevertheless, there's going to be an increasing stir in Washington over working women. The Economic Report of the President this year noted that pay differentials between men and women (even allowing for variations in jobs) still are sizable. Congress is sure to do some serious poking in the areas of Social Security and income taxes, where married, working couples often are penalized as things stand now.

★ ★ ★

EARNINGS: All things considered—inflation, taxes, wage increases, etc.—are you better off now than a year ago? It's impossible to adjust for individual circumstances, of course, but if you use the status of production workers as an index the answer is: **About the same, or maybe just a shade under.** "Real" weekly wages (wages adjusted for price fluctuations) are averaging about a 1% increase. But tax hikes, mainly the increase in Social Security rates, are erasing all of that and could be putting you about ½% into the minus column.

By Edgar A. Grunwald

THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

—(Continued from page 49)—

He was always there, always willing. After a while he knew as much about all our programs as any man, because he'd worked on them all. He already knew more about national security than any man in the Legion—and we have experts. He seems to know everyone in Congress and all of the staffs on Capitol Hill, and they all seem to know and respect him. I think he can measure up to any job anyone gives him."

Said a fourth: "Why ask me? Go ask the Air Force why they jumped him from group commander to deputy chief of the whole bombing show in Europe. Group commanders were a dime a dozen at the time. Ask them why they put him on the small team to create the Air Force and the Defense Department, why they kept him as their man with Congress for twice the normal tour of duty in Washington, why they picked him to get the Greeks and Turks to work together in NATO. The guy will take on the toughest assignment, do a good job and make it look easy."

Such enthusiasm could be embarrassing to Bob Eaton by seeming to promise miracles. It does confirm again that he is a proven capable administrator with a generous capacity for dedicated, forward-looking volunteer service.

Marylanders are as enthusiastic about Mrs. Eaton, whom this writer has not met. "Jo is a wonderfully outgoing woman," I was told. "You are going to see that the Eatons are a team."

The Eatons have three grown children, Robert, Sallie and Charles. Bob Eaton is an Episcopalian and a Mason. In his military career he has been decorated with the Silver Star with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star, Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Service Medal and the French Croix de Guerre. He is a member of the Columbia Country Club, the Army-Navy Club and Burning Tree (Washington) and Pine Valley Club. The Eatons live in Chevy Chase, Md.

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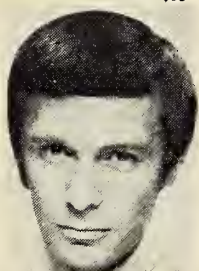
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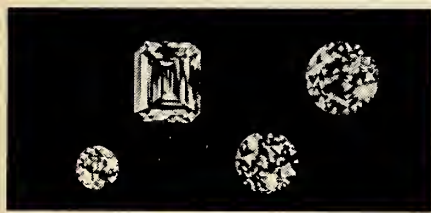


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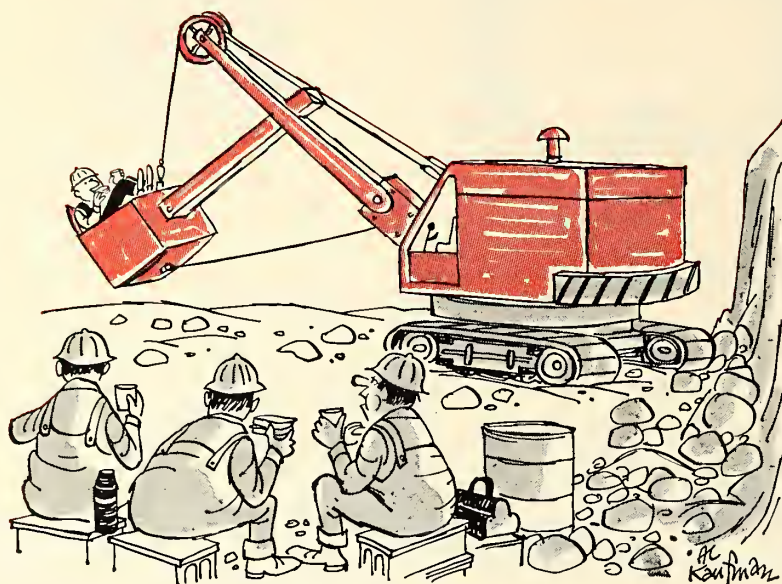
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PARTING SHOTS



"He's a hard guy to get acquainted with."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

YOU CAN'T GET TO TOWN IN A BATHTUB

A friend of mine born in one of the southern states but brought to California as a young boy, decided to drive back to his home state and visit some of his relatives.

He visited two of his cousins who lived in a rural area. The man worked in a shipyard about forty miles away, and his wife worked at a diner along the highway. Both had new cars, but there was no plumbing in their house.

"How is it, Cousin Orphy," asked my friend, "that you and Cousin Luke both have new cars but there isn't any plumbing in your house."

"Cousin Willie," came the reply, "you can't get to town in a bathtub, honey."

WILLIAM MICHAEL FAGAN

DON'T WALK, RUN!!

The newlyweds operating on a limited budget inspected an apartment in a rather seedy neighborhood. Being concerned about their safety they asked the landlord how long it would take to walk to the police station in case of an emergency.

The landlord replied, "I really don't know. Nobody ever made it before."

JOSEPH C. SALAK

A DELICATE BALANCE

Fearing that a rather bulky letter he had to mail might be overweight, the man had it checked at the post office.

"Right on the nose," the clerk said, handing back the letter.

The man put an eight-cent stamp on the envelope and returned it to the clerk.

"Whoops!" cried the clerk, tossing the letter on the scale again. "Now you're over!"

EDWARD STEVENSON

HAS IT BOTH WAYS

Folk Singer: A person who gets rich singing about how wonderful it is to be poor.

PAUL A. FRANO

FOR MEN ONLY

I am of the feminine gender
At poker I've tried my hand,
My husband's the ante-lender
And he soundly seconds my stand.

When "Jacks or better" was the dealer's
game

I let straights and flushes go by.
Waiting for pairs was my aim,
"No!" my husband's anguished cry.

At bluffing I cower, waver and flinch,
I draw for an inside straight.
Then, when holding a sure-fire cinch
I lose heart and surrender the gate.

So I vote to leave poker to the gent,
I'll stick to Bridge or Hearts.
Let him bluff the table or lose the rent,
As for me—"Anyone for Darts"

MARY ELLEN ALABASTER

JERKY JOGGER

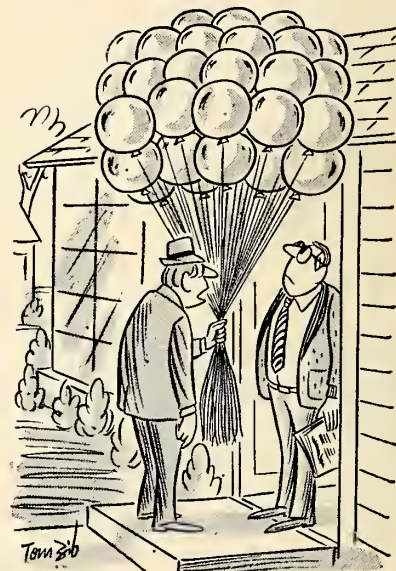
There's no stopping the office physical fitness fiend. Now he's leaving his car over on the far side of the parking lot.

THOMAS LAMANCE

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

With rising prices which won't stop
On beef and pork we eat,
I find that every time I shop,
It's hard to make ends meat.

DONNA EVLETH



"You probably don't know me, sir, but I'm one of your neighbors from the next block and I've had a lot of reversals lately."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

America's whiskey and how to enjoy it.



SEAGRAM DISTILLERS CO., N. Y. C. AMERICAN WHISKEY—A BLEND. 86 PROOF.

If you're lucky enough to have a cider press, you know what fun it is to make your own cider. And how great it tastes, right out of the bucket.

But you might not know how great it tastes another way—mixed with Seagram's 7 Crown, America's favorite whiskey.

It's the Seven 'n Cider, a perfect drink for lazy autumn afternoons on the old front porch.

Of course, your cider doesn't have to be home-made. Any good cider will do.

Just make sure the whiskey is Seagram's 7 Crown, with the unique light taste that goes so well, so many ways.

Seagram's 7 has versatility. That's what makes it America's largest selling whiskey.



Seagram's 7 Crown.
It's America's whiskey.



The Seven 'n Cider. 1½ ounces Seagram's 7 Crown.
6 ounces fresh, sweet apple cider. Stir over ice.

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